A

# COLLECTION

OF THE

# STATUTES

Now in FORCE,

RELATING TO THE

# POST OFFICE.

*LONDON:*

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Anno nono

# ANNÆ REGINÆ.

*An Act for eſtabliſhing a General Poſt Office for all Her Majeſty's Dominions, and for ſettling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof, for the Service of the War, and other Her Majeſty's Occaſions.*

*Moſt Gracious Sovereign,*

Preamble.

WHereas by an Act made in the Twelfth Year of the Reign of His late Majeſty King *Charles* the Second, a General Poſt Office was erected and eſtabliſhed in that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, and by the Twentieth Act of the Fifth Seſſion of the Firſt Parliament of His late Majeſty King *William* the

Third, a General Poſt Office was erected and eſtabliſhed in that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, and ſeveral Rates of Poſtage were thereby ſeverally appointed to be received, under ſeveral different Powers and Authorities; which Two Kingdoms being ſince United, it is moſt likely that a Correſpondence by Poſts will be beſt managed and ordered for the Publick Good, by uniting alſo the ſaid Two Poſt Offices under One Poſtmaſter General: **And whereas** alſo Poſts have, at great Charges, been eſtabliſhed by Packet Boats between that Part of *Great Britain* called *England* and the *Weſt Indies*, and alſo on the Main Land in *North America*, through moſt of Her Majeſty's Plantations and Colonies in thoſe Parts, as alſo to divers Parts in *Europe*, to which no Packet Boats were till lately ſettled, and more Poſts may yet be ſettled and eſtabliſhed for the Publick Good and Welfare of all Your Majeſty's Subjects: **And whereas** the ſeveral Rates of Poſtage may, in many Parts, with little Burthen to the Subject, be encreaſed, and other new Rates granted; which additional and new Rates may, in ſome meaſure, enable

Your

our Majeſty to carry on and finiſh
e preſent War, ſo as ſuitable Powers
d Authorities be made for collecting
e ſame, and ſufficient Proviſion be
ade, as well for preventing the undue
ollecting and Delivery of Letters by
rivate Poſts, Carriages, Higlers, Wa-
rmen, Drivers of Stage Coaches, and
ther Perſons, as all other Frauds to
hich the Revenue might otherwiſe be
iable; which cannot be well and pro-
erly done, to anſwer the Ends afore-
aid, without Authority of Parliament
n a new Act to be made for the ſaid
Office, and for the Revenues to ariſe
hereby: We therefore Your Majeſty's
moſt dutiful and loyal Subjects, the
Commons of *Great Britain* in Parlia-
ment aſſembled, do moſt humbly be-
ſeech Your Majeſty that it may be **en-
acted; and be it enacted** by the
Queen's moſt Excellent Majeſty, by
nd with the Advice and Conſent of
he Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and
Commons, in this preſent Parliament
aſſembled, and by Authority of the
ſame, That the ſaid Act made in *Eng-
land* in the Twelfth Year of the Reign
of His ſaid late Majeſty King *Charles*
he Second, intituled, *An Act for erect-*

Former Acts in *England* and *Scotland*, relating to the Poſt Office, repealed.

*ing and eſtabliſhing a Poſt Office*, and the ſaid Act made in *Scotland* in the Fifth Seſſion of the Firſt Parliament of His ſaid late Majeſty King *William* the Third, intituled, *An Act anent the Poſt Office*, and every Article, Clauſe, and Thing therein, or in either of them contained, ſhall be, and is and are hereby, from and after the Firſt Day of *June*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and eleven, actually repealed, except as is herein after mentioned.

**And** to the end a General Poſt Office may be eſtabliſhed for and throughout Her Majeſty's Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, Her Colonies and Plantations in *North America*, and the *Weſt Indies*, and all other Her Majeſty's Dominions and Territories, in ſuch Manner as may be moſt beneficial to the People of theſe Kingdoms, and Her Majeſty may be ſupplied, and the Revenue ariſing by the ſaid Office better improved, ſettled, and ſecured to Her Majeſty, Her Heirs, and Succeſſors, in ſuch Manner as is herein after mentioned; **be it enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the ſaid Firſt Day of *June*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and eleven, there

One General Poſt Office to be erected;

here be from thenceforth one General Letter Office and Poſt Office erected and eſtabliſhed in ſome convenient Place within the City of *London*, from whence all Letters and Packets whatſoever may be with Speed and Expedition ſent into any Part of the Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, or to *North America*, the *Weſt Indies*, or to any other of Her Majeſty's Dominions or Territories, or unto any other Kingdom or Country beyond the Seas, at which ſaid Office all Returns and Anſwers may be likewiſe received; and that one Maſter of the ſaid General Letter Office and Poſt Office ſhall be, from time to time, appointed by the Queen's Majeſty, Her Heirs, and Succeſſors, to be made and conſtituted by Letters Patents under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, by the Name and Stile of *Her Majeſty's Poſtmaſter General*; which ſaid Maſter of the ſaid Office, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto ſufficiently authorized, and his and their Servants and Agents, and no other Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, ſhall, from time to time, and at all Times, have the receiving, taking up, ordering,

and one Poſtmaſter General.

ordering, diſpatching, ſending Poſt or with Speed, carrying and delivering of all Letters and Packets whatſoever, which ſhall, from time to time, and at all or any Times, be ſent to and from all and every the Parts and Places of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, *North America*, the *Weſt Indies*, and other Her Majeſty's Dominions, and alſo to and from all and every the Kingdoms and Countries beyond the Seas, where he ſhall ſettle or cauſe to be ſettled Poſts, or Running Meſſengers for that Purpoſe; except ſuch Letters as ſhall reſpectively concern Goods ſent by common known Carriers of Goods by Carts, Waggons, or Pack Horſes, and ſhall be reſpectively delivered with the Goods ſuch Letters do concern, without Hire or Reward, or other Profit or Advantage, for receiving or delivering ſuch Letters; and except Letters of Merchants, and Maſters Owners of any Ships, Barques, or Veſſels of Merchandize, or any the Cargo or Lading therein, ſent on Board ſuch Ships, Barques, or Veſſels of Merchandize, whereof ſuch Merchants or Maſters are Owners, as aforeſaid, and delivered by any Maſters of any ſuch Ships,

Exception.

Ships, Barques, or Veſſels of Merchandize, or by any other Perſon employed by them, for the Carriage of ſuch Letters aforeſaid, according to their reſpective Directions, ſo as ſuch Letters be delivered to the reſpective Perſons to whom they ſhall be directed, without paying or receiving any Hire or Reward, Advantage or Profit for the ſame in any wiſe; and alſo except Commiſſions, or the Return thereof, Affidavits, Writs, Proceſs, or Proceedings, or Returns thereof, iſſuing out of any Court, and alſo any Letter or Letters to be ſent by any private Friend or Friends, in their way of Journey or Travel, or by any Meſſenger or Meſſengers ſent on Purpoſe, for or concerning the private Affair of any Perſon or Perſons.

Carriers, Coachmen, Watermen, &c. not to carry Letters.

**Provided always nevertheleſs,** That nothing in the ſaid Exception contained ſhall extend or be conſtrued to extend to give any Licence or Authority to any common known Carriers of Goods by Carts, Waggons, or Pack Horſes, their Servants or Agents, to receive, collect, or deliver, with or without Hire, any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters whatſo-

ever, that do not concern Goods in their Carts, Waggons, or on their Pack Horſes, nor to any Owners or Drivers of Stage Coaches, nor to any Owners, Maſters, or Commanders of Boats called Paſſage Boats, ſailing between any Part of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, and any Parts or Places beyond the Seas, or their Servants or Agents, nor to any Paſſenger or Paſſengers on Board ſuch Boats or Veſſels, nor to the Owners or Watermen on Board of any Boat, Barge, or Veſſel, paſſing or repaſſing on any River or Rivers, to and from any Parts of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, *North America*, or the *Weſt Indies*, or other Her Majeſty's Dominions and Territories, although ſuch Drivers of Stage Coaches, Owners, Maſters or Commanders of Boats called Paſſage Boats, or Paſſengers therein, Owners or Watermen on Board of any ſuch Boat, Barge, or Veſſel, paſſing or re-paſſing on any ſuch River or Rivers as aforeſaid, do not receive any Hire or Reward, or other Advantage for the ſame; but that all ſuch Carriers, Owners and Drivers of Stage Coaches, Owners, Maſters or Commanders of Paſſage Boats, and the Paſſengers there-

in

and all Owners and Watermen or Boards of any Boat Barge, or Veſſel, paſſing or re-paſſing on any River or Rivers, to or from any the Parts and Places aforeſaid, collecting and delivering Letters as aforeſaid, though without Hire or Reward, ſhall be deemed and taken, and are hereby declared to be Perſons offending againſt this Act, and ſhall forfeit and pay ſuch Sum and Sums of Money, as Perſons collecting, receiving, taking up, conveying, and delivering of Letters for Hire, or ſetting up, employing, and maintaining, any Poſt contrary to this Act, or that are or ſhall be concerned therein, are herein after enacted to forfeit and pay.

And, to the end there may be One Chief Letter Office alſo in *North Britain* and *Ireland*, and at *New York* in *North America*, and in the *Weſt Indies*, from whence the Diſtances for which the Rates hereby granted may be computed and ſettled; **be it enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That ſuch Poſtmaſter General ſo to be conſtituted, as aforeſaid, ſhall be at liberty to keep One Chief Letter Office in the City of *Edinburgh*, and One other Chief Letter Office in the City of *Dublin*, and

A Chief Letter Office to be erected at *Edinburgh*, at *Dublin*, and at *New York*, &c.

and One Chief Letter Office in *New York* aforesaid, and other Chief Offices at some convenient Place or Places in each of Her Majesty's Provinces or Colonies in *America*, and in each of the Islands in the *West Indies*, called the *Leward Islands*, and appoint sufficient Deputies under him for the better managing, ordering, collecting, and improving the Revenue hereby granted.

The Post-master General, and no other, to provide Horses for riding Post.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That such Post-master General for the time being, as shall from time to time be made and constituted by Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, and the respective Deputies or Substitutes of such Post-master General, and no other Person or Persons whatsoever, shall prepare and provide Horses and Furniture to let to Hire unto all or any Person or Persons riding in Post, by Commission or without, to or from all and every the Parts and Places of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, where any Post Roads are, or shall be settled and established.

Rates for carrying Letters in *England*.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may

may be lawful to and for ſuch Poſt-maſter General to be conſtituted and appointed as aforeſaid, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto ſufficiently authorized, to and for the Uſe of Her Majeſty, Her Heirs, and Succeſſors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Portage and Conveyance of all ſuch Letters and Packets which he ſhall ſo convey, carry, or ſend Poſt, as aforeſaid, and for the providing and furniſhing Horſes for Perſons riding in Poſt, as aforeſaid, according to the ſeveral Rates and Sums of lawful *Britiſh* Money hereafter mentioned, not to exceed the ſame; (that is to ſay) For the Port of every ſingle Letter, or Piece of Paper, to or from any Place not exceeding Eighty *Engliſh* Miles diſtant from the ſaid General Poſt Office in *London*, and within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, and not coming from or directed on Ship-board, Three Pence; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Six Pence; and ſo proportionably unto the ſaid Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things, after

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the Rate of Twelve Pence of *Britiſh* Money for every Ounce Weight; and for the Port of every Single Letter, or Piece of Paper, to or from any Place above Eighty ſuch *Engliſh* Miles diſtant from the ſaid General Poſt Office, and within that Part of the Kingdom of *Great Britain* called *England*, or to the Town of *Berwick* upon *Tweed*, and not coming from or directed on Ship-board, Four Pence; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Eight Pence; and ſo proportionably unto the ſaid Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things, after the Rate of One Shilling and Four Pence *Britiſh* Money for every Ounce Weight: And for the Port of every Single Letter, or Piece of Paper, from the ſaid General Poſt Office in *London* unto the City of *Edinburgh*, in that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, or from thence to the ſaid General Poſt Office in the City of *London*, and to and from *Dumfreys*, or *Cockburnſpeth*, and between either of thoſe Places and the ſaid City of *Edinburgh*, not coming from, or directed on Board any Ship, Six Pence; and

Rates for *Scotland.*

or the like Port of every Double Let-
er, Twelve Pence; and ſo proportion-
bly unto the ſaid Rates, for the Port
f every Packet of Letters; and for
he like Port of every Packet of Writs,
eeds, and other Things, after the
ate of Two Shillings *Britiſh* Money,
or every Ounce Weight; and for the
ort of every Single Letter, or Piece
f Paper, to or from the chief Poſt
ffice in the ſaid City of *Edinburgh*,
or from any Place, not exceeding
ifty ſuch *Engliſh* Miles diſtant from
he ſaid chief Poſt Office in *Edinburgh*,
nd within that Part of the King-
om of *Great Britain*, called *Scotland*,
nd not coming from, or directed
n Board of any Ship or Veſſel, Two
ence *Britiſh* Money; and for the like
ort of every Double Letter, Four
ence of like Money; and ſo propor-
onably to the ſaid Rates for the Port
f every Packet of Letters; and for
he like Port of every Packet of Writs,
eeds, and other Things, after the
ate of Eight Pence *Britiſh* Money for
very Ounce Weight; and for the Port
f every ſingle Letter, or Piece of Pa-
er, to or from any Place above Fifty
uch Miles diſtant from the ſaid chief
Office

Office in *Edinburh*, and not exceeding Eighty ſuch Miles, and within that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, and not coming from, or directed on Ship-board, Three Pence; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Six Pence; and ſo proportionably to the ſaid Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things, after the Rate of Twelve Pence *Britiſh* Money for every Ounce Weight; and for the Port of every Single Letter, or Piece of Paper, to or from any Place above Eighty *Engliſh* Miles diſtant from the ſaid chief Office in *Edinburgh*, and within that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, and not coming from, or directed on Ship-board, Four Pence *Britiſh* Money; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Eight Pence; and ſo proportionably to the ſaid Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things, after the Rate of One Shilling and Four Pence *Britiſh* Money for every Ounce Weight: And for the Port of every Single Letter or Piece of Paper from

from the ſaid General Letter Office in *London*, unto the City of *Dublin* in *Ireland*, or from the ſaid City of *Dublin* in *Ireland*, unto the ſaid General Poſt Office, and not coming from, or directed on Board of any Ship, Six Pence of *Britiſh* Money; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Twelve Pence *Britiſh* Money; and ſo proportionably unto the ſaid Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every other Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things of greater Bulk, Two Shillings of *Britiſh* Money for every Ounce Weight; and for the Port of ſuch Letters or Packets as ſhall be conveyed or carried from the chief Poſt Office in the ſaid City of *Dublin*, unto any other Place or Places within the Kingdom of *Ireland*, or from any other Place within the ſaid Kingdom, not coming from, or directed on Ship-board, according to the Rates and Sums of *Britiſh* Money hereafter following, *viz.* For the Port of every Single Letter from the chief Poſt Office in the ſaid City of *Dublin*, to or from any Place not exceeding Forty *Engliſh* Miles diſtant from the ſaid chief Office in *Dublin*, and within the ſaid Kingdom of *Ireland*, not coming from, or directed on Ship-board, Two

Rates for *Ireland.*

Two Pence; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Four Pence; and ſo proportionably unto the ſaid Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every other Packet of Writs, Deeds, or other Things, after the Rate of Eight Pence for every Ounce Weight; and for the Port of every Single Letter, or Piece of Paper, to or from any Place above Forty *Engliſh* Miles diſtant from the ſaid chief Office in *Dublin*, and within the ſaid Kingdom of *Ireland*, and not coming from, or directed on Board of any Ship or Veſſel, Four Pence; and for the like Port of every Double Letter, Eight Pence; and ſo proportionably unto the ſaid Rates for the Port of every Packet of Letters; and for the like Port of every Packet of Writs, Deeds, and other Things, after the Rate of One Shilling and Four Pence for every Ounce Weight: And for the Port of all and every the Letters and Packets of Letters directed on Board, or fetched or brought from on Board any Ship or Veſſel, riding or ſtopping in any Port within her Majeſty's Dominions, the Sum of One Penny, over and above the Rates granted in and by this Act; and for the Port of all and every the Let-

Rates of Letters on Board any Ship.

Penny Poſt.

etters and Packets, paſſing or repaſſing
y the Carriage called *The Penny Poſt*,
tabliſhed and ſettled within the Cities
f *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and Borough
f *Southwark*, and Parts adjacent, and
be received and delivered within Ten
*ngliſh* Miles diſtant from the ſaid Ge-
ral Letter Office in *London*, One Pen-
; and for the Port of all and every the
etters, Packets, and Parcels of Goods
at ſhall be carried or conveyed to or
om any of her Majeſty's ſaid Domi-
ons, to or from any other Parts or
laces beyond the Seas, according to the
veral and reſpective Rates following,
e ſame being rated by the Letter or
the Ounce; that is to ſay,

Rates for Foreign Letters.

ll Letters and Packets coming from any Part of *France* to *London*.

- Single, Ten pence.
- Double, One ſhilling eight pence.
- Treble, Two ſhillings ſix pence.
- Ounce, Three ſhillings four pence.

All

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| All Letters and Packets passing from *London*, through *France*, to any Part of *Spain* or *Portugal* (Port paid to *Bayonne*) and from *Spain* and *Portugal* through *France*, unto *London* | Single, One shilling six pence. |
| | Double, Three shillings. |
| | Treble, Four shillings six pence. |
| | Ounce, Six shillings. |
| All Letters and Packets passing from *London*, through *France*, to any Part of *Italy*, or *Sicily*, by the Way of *Lyons*, or to any Part of *Turkey*, by the Way of *Marcelia*, and from any of those Parts, through *France*, unto *London* | Single, One shilling three pence. |
| | Double, Two shillings six pence. |
| | Treble, Three shillings nine pence. |
| | Ounce, Five shillings. |

All

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| All Letters and Packets coming from any Part of the *Spaniſh Netherlands* unto *London* | Single, Ten pence.<br>Double, One ſhilling eight pence.<br>Treble, Two ſhillings ſix pence.<br>Ounce, Three ſhillings four pence. |

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| All Letters and Packets paſſing from *London* through the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, to any Part of *Italy* or *Sicily* (Port paid to *Antwerp*) and from any Part of *Italy* or *Sicily*, through the *Spaniſh Netherlands* unto *London* —— —— | Single, One ſhilling.<br>Double, Two ſhillings.<br>Treble, Three ſhillings.<br>Ounce, Four ſhillings. |

All

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| All Letters and Packets passing from *London* through the *Spaniſh Netherlands* to any Part of *Germany Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden*, and all Parts of the North, and from any of thoſe Parts, through the *Spaniſh Netherlands* unto *London* | Single, One ſhilling.<br>Double, Two ſhillings.<br>Treble, Three ſhillings.<br>Ounce, Four ſhillings. |

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| All Letters and Packets passing from *London* through the *Spaniſh Netherlands* to any Part of *Spain* or *Portugal*, and from any Part of *Spain* or *Portugal*, through the *Spaniſh Netherlands* unto *London* —— —— | Single, One ſhilling ſix pence.<br>Double, Three ſhillings.<br>Treble, Four ſhillings ſix pence.<br>Ounce, ſix ſhillings. |

All

All Letters and Packets passing from any Part of the *United Provinces* unto *London* ——

- Single, Ten pence.
- Double, One ſhiling eight pence.
- Treble, Two ſhillings ſix pence.
- Ounce, Three ſhillings four pence.

All Letters and Packets passing from *London* through the *United Provinces* for any Part of *Italy* or *Sicily*, and from any Part of *Italy* or *Sicily*, through the *United Provinces* unto *London*

- Single, One ſhilling.
- Double, Two ſhillings.
- Treble, Three ſhillings.
- Ounce, Four ſhillings.

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| All Letters and Packets passing from *London* through the *United Provinces* to any Part of *Germany*, *Switzerland*, *Denmark*, *Sweden*, and all Parts of the North, and from any of thoſe Parts and Places, through the *United Provinces* unto *London* --- | Single, One ſhilling.<br>Double, Two ſhillings.<br>Treble, Three ſhillings.<br>Ounce, Four ſhillings. |

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| All Letters and Packets passing from *London* through the *United Provinces* unto any Part of *Spain* or *Portugal*, and from any Part of *Spain* or *Portugal*, through the *United Provinces* unto *London* ——— | Single, One ſhilling ſix pence.<br>Double, Three ſhillings.<br>Treble, Four ſhillings ſix pence.<br>Ounce, Six ſhillings. |

All

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| All Letters and Packets paſſing from *London* through the *Spaniſh Netherlands* or the *United Provinces* to *Hamburgh* (Port paid to *Antwerp* or *Amſterdam*) and from *Hamburgh*, through the *Spaniſh Netherlands* or the *United Provinces* unto *London* —— —— | Single, Ten pence.<br>Double, One ſhilling eight pence.<br>Treble, Two ſhillings ſix pence.<br>Ounce, Three ſhillings four pence. |
| All Letters and Packets paſſing between *London*, *Spain*, or *Portugal*, by Packet Boats --- | Single, One ſhilling ſix pence.<br>Double, Three ſhillings.<br>Treble, Four ſhillings ſix pence.<br>Ounce, Six ſhillings. |

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| All Letters and Packets passing from *London* unto *Jamaica*, *Barbadoes*, *Antegoa*, *Montſerrat*, *Nevis* and *Saint Chriſtophers* in *America*, and from any of thoſe Places to *London* | Single, One ſhilling ſix pence. |
| | Double, Three ſhillings. |
| | Treble, Four ſhillings ſix pence. |
| | Ounce, Six ſhillings. |

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| All Letters and Packets from *London* to *New York* in *North America*, and thence to *London* | Single, One ſhilling. |
| | Double, Two ſhillings. |
| | Treble, Three ſhillings. |
| | Ounce, Four ſhillings. |

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| All Letters and Packets from any Part of the *Weſt Indies*, to *New York* aforeſaid——— | Single, Four pence.<br>Double, Eight pence.<br>Treble, One ſhilling.<br>Ounce, One ſhilling four pence. |
| All Letters and Packets from *New York*, to any Place within Sixty *Engliſh* Miles thereof, and thence back to *New York* ——— | Single, Four pence.<br>Double, Eight pence.<br>Treble, One ſhilling.<br>Ounce, One ſhilling four pence. |

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| All Letters and Packets from *New York* to *Perth Amboy*, the chief Town in *East New Jersey*, and to *Bridlington*, the chief Town in *West New Jersey*, and from each of those Places back to *New York*, and from *New York* to any Place not exceeding One hundred *English* Miles, and from each of those Places to *New York*--- | Single, Six pence.<br>Double, One shilling.<br>Treble, One shilling six pence.<br>Ounce, Two shillings. |
| All Letters and Packets from *Perth Amboy* and *Bridlington* to any Place not exceeding Sixty *English* Miles, and thence back again---- | Single, Four pence.<br>Double, Eight pence.<br>Treble, One shilling.<br>Ounce, One shilling four pence. |

All

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| All Letters and Packets from *Perth Amboy* and *Bridlington* to any Place not exceeding One hundred *Engliſh* Miles, and thence back again | Single, Six pence.<br>Double, One ſhilling.<br>Treble, One ſhilling ſix pence.<br>Ounce, Two ſhillings. |
| All Letters and Packets from *New York* to *New London*, the chief Town in *Connecticut* in *New England*, and to *Philadelphia*, the chief Town in *Penſilvania*, and from thoſe Places back to *New York* —— —— | Single, Nine pence.<br>Double, One ſhilling ſix pence.<br>Treble, Two ſhillings three pence.<br>Ounce, Three ſhillings. |

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| All Letters and Packets from *New London* and *Philadelphia*, to any Place not exceeding Sixty *Engliſh* Miles, and thence back again --- | Single, Four pence. |
| | Double, Eight pence. |
| | Treble, One ſhilling. |
| | Ounce, One ſhilling four pence. |

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| All Letters and Packets from *New London* and *Philadelphia*, to any Place not exceeding One hundred *Engliſh* Miles, and ſo back again —— —— | Single, Six pence. |
| | Double, One ſhilling. |
| | Treble, One ſhilling ſix pence. |
| | Ounce, Two ſhillings. |

All

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| All Letters and Packets from *New York* aforeſaid to *Newport*, the chief Town in *Rhode Iſland*, and *Providence Plantation* in *New England*, and to *Boſton*, the chief Town in *Maſſachuſets Bay* in *New England* aforeſaid, and to *Portſmouth*, the chief Town in *New Hampſhire* in *New England* aforeſaid, and to *Annapolis*, the chief Town in *Maryland*, and from every of thoſe Places to *New York*-- ——— | Single, One ſhilling.<br>Double, Two ſhillings.<br>Treble, Threeſhillings.<br>Ounce, Four ſhillings. |
| All Letters and Packets from *Newport*, *Boſton*, *Portſmouth*, and *Annapolis* aforeſaid, to any Place not exceeding Sixty *Engliſh* Miles, and thence back again ---- | Single Four pence.<br>Double, Eight pence.<br>Treble, One ſhilling.<br>Ounce, One ſhilling four pence. |

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|---|---|
| All Letters and Packets from *Newport*, *Boſton*, *Portſmouth*, and *Annapolis* aforeſaid, to any Place not exceeding One hundred *Engliſh* Miles, and thence back again | Single, Six pence.<br>Double, One ſhilling.<br>Treble, One ſhilling ſix pence.<br>Ounce, Two ſhillings. |
| All Letters and Packets from *New York* aforeſaid, to the chief Offices in *Salem*, and *Ipſwich*, and to the chief Office in *Piſcataway*, and to *Williamſburgh*, the chief Office in *Virginia*, and from every of thoſe Places to *New York* | Single, One ſhilling three pence.<br>Double, Two ſhillings ſix pence.<br>Treble, Three ſhillings nine pence.<br>Ounce, Five ſhillings. |

All

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| All Letters and Packets from the chief Offices in *Salem*, *Ipſwich*, *Piſcataway*, and *Williamſburgh* aforeſaid, to any Place not exceeding Sixty *Engliſh* Miles, and thence back again—— | Single, Four pence.<br>Double, Eight pence.<br>Treble, One ſhilling.<br>Ounce, One ſhilling four pence. |

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|---|---|
| All Letters and Packets from the chief Offices in *Salem*, *Ipſwich*, *Piſcataway*, and *Williamſburgh* aforeſaid, to any Place not exceeding One hundred *Engliſh* Miles, and thence back again—— | Single, Six pence.<br>Double, One ſhilling.<br>Treble, One ſhilling ſix pence.<br>Ounce, Two ſhillings. |

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| All Letters and Packets from *New York* aforesaid, to *Charles-town*, the chief Town in *North* and *South Carolina*, and from *Charles-town* aforesaid, to *New York* —— —— —— | Single, One shilling six pence.<br>Double, Three shillings.<br>Treble, Four shillings six pence.<br>Ounce, Six shillings. |
| All Letters and Packets from *Charles-town* aforesaid, to any Place not exceeding Sixty *English* Miles, and thence back again—— | Single, Four pence.<br>Double, Eight pence.<br>Treble, One shilling.<br>Ounce, One shilling four pence. |

All

All Letters and Packets from *Charles-town* aforeſaid, to any Place not exceeding One hundred *Engliſh* Miles, and thence back again——

- Single, Six pence.
- Double, One ſhilling.
- Treble, One ſhilling ſix pence.
- Ounce, Two ſhillings.

**And be it enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That ſuch Poſtmaſter General ſo to be appointed as aforeſaid, ſhall and may receive and take, according to the ſame Rates and Proportions for the Port of Letters, Packets, and Parcels, to or from any of the Parts or Places beyond the Seas, where Poſts have not been heretofore ſettled, and may hereafter be ſettled by ſuch Poſtmaſter General for the time being.

Places where Poſts are not yet ſettled, to pay according to theſe Rates.

**And be it further enacted,** That all Letters and Packets directed to, or coming from any of the Foreign Parts or Places aforeſaid, and collected or delivered at any Part or Place between *London* and any of the Ports from whence

Foreign Letters collected, *&c.* between *London* and the Port whence the Packet Boat ſails, to pay as to, or from *London.*

whence any of Her Majeſty's Packet Boats ſhall at any Time hereafter ſail, or at which they ſhall or may arrive with the Foreign Mails, do pay the ſame Rates as if the ſame were conveyed in the ſaid Mails to or from *London.*

Packet Boats to go from *Donachadee* to *Port Patrick.*

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That ſuch Poſtmaſter General ſhall be at liberty to keep and maintain Packet Boats to go weekly (Wind and Weather permitting) to and from *Donachadee*, or ſome other convenient Port in *Ireland*, to *Port Patrick*, or ſome other convenient Port in that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, for Conveyance of Letters and Packets for the Conveniency of Trade and Commerce between the ſaid Kingdoms, paying over and above the Inland Rates hereby rated and appointed to be received for ſuch Letters and Packets, at the Place where ſuch Letter or Letters are delivered in to be ſent by ſuch Packet Boats, according to the Rates following; (that is to ſay) For every ſuch Single Letter Two Pence, Double Four Pence, Treble Six Pence, Ounce Eight Pence.

**And**, foraſmuch as it may be conve-
ient to erect ſome Croſs Stages for the
etter maintaining of Trade and Com-
nerce, and mutual Correſpondencies,
nd to ſettle the Rates for all By or
Way Letters and Packets conveyed by
oſt in any of the ſaid Kingdoms; **be**
**t therefore enacted** by the Autho-
ity aforeſaid, That from and after the
aid Firſt Day of *June*, One thouſand
even hundred and eleven, it ſhall and
ay be lawful to and for the Poſt-
aſter General for the time being, ſo
onſtituted as aforeſaid, to erect and
et up Croſs Stages to and from any
lace or Places whatſoever, and there-
pon ſuch Poſtmaſter General, and his
eputy and Deputies by him thereunto
ufficiently authorized, ſhall and may
awfully demand, have, receive, and
ake, for the Poſtage and Conveyance,
s well of all ſuch Letters and Packets
hich he or they ſhall ſo convey, car-
y, or ſend Poſt as aforeſaid, in any
uch Croſs Stages, as for all By or
Way Letters and Packets, the ſame
Rates in proportion to the Diſtances of
he Places to which they ſhall be di-
ected from the Places at which they
hall be put in, as Letters and Packets
conveyed

Poſtmaſter to erect Croſs Stages, &c.

conveyed and re-conveyed to and from *London* are rated to pay.

**And,** for the better reducing all Miles in both the ſaid Kingdoms throughout all the Poſt Roads within One hundred Miles Diſtance from the ſaid chief Offices, and in the Croſs Roads now ſettled, or hereafter to be ſettled, to One and the ſame Meaſure and Standard; and for preventing Diſputes touching the ſame, **be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for ſuch Perſon and Perſons as the Poſtmaſter General for the time being ſhall appoint, to meaſure, or cauſe to be meaſured, by the Wheel, all Roads, except ſuch Roads where Stages are already ſettled; and that ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo to be authorized, ſhall cauſe fair Surveys or Books to be made for each of the ſaid Kingdoms; One of each whereof to be left with Her Majeſty's Poſtmaſter General in *London*; another of each to be left at the chief Poſt Office in *Edinburgh*, with the Poſtmaſter General's Deputy there; another of each to be left at the chief Poſt Office in *Dublin*, with the Poſtmaſter General's Deputy there, to remain

A Survey to be taken of the Diſtances of the Roads.

ain in the ſaid Poſt Offices; and each f which ſaid Books ſhall be ſigned y ſuch Perſon or Perſons making the me, and by the Poſtmaſter General r the time being, and his Deputies, ſuch General Offices in each King- om, and the Comptrollers and Sur- yors belonging or to belong to the id General Poſt Offices in *London*, *dinburgh*, and *Dublin*; which Books Surveys ſhall aſcertain and deter- ine the Diſtances on all the ſaid oads.

Surveyor to be ſworn.

**Provided always**, That ſuch Per- n or Perſons who ſhall be authoriz- to meaſure the ſaid Diſtances, and ery of them, ſhall be ſworn to per- rm the ſame according to the beſt their Skill and Judgement; which ath ſhall and may be adminiſtered by y of Her Majeſty's Juſtices of the ace in the ſaid Kingdoms reſpective- who ſhall make a Certificate thereof Writing, to be entered in the Three eneral Poſt Offices aforeſaid, without e or Charge.

Proviſo for Merchants.

**Provided always**, That all Mer- ants Accounts, not exceeding One eet of Paper, and all Bills of Ex- ange, Invoices, and Bills of Lading,

are

are and ſhall hereby be underſtood to be allowed without Rate in the Price of the Letters; and likewiſe the Covers of Letters, not exceeding One Fourth Part of a Sheet of Paper, ſent by the Way of *Vienna*, *Marſeilles*, *Venice*, or *Leghorn*, to be ſent to or from *Turkey*, ſhall be underſtood to be allowed to paſs without Rate or Payment for the ſame.

**And** in regard the ſaid Poſtmaſter General and his Deputies are obliged, as well for performing the Duties of the ſeveral Stages of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, as for furniſhing ſuch as ride Poſt with Horſes and Furniture, to be at great Charge to maintain a convenient Number of Servants, Horſes, and Furniture; **be it enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for ſuch Poſtmaſter General, and his Deputy and Deputies, to ask, demand, take, and receive of every Perſon, that he or they ſhall furniſh and provide with Horſes and Furniture, or with Horſes, Furniture, and Guide, to ride Poſt in any of the Poſt Roads as aforeſaid, Three Pence of *Britiſh* Money for each and every Horſe-hire or Poſtage for every *Eng-*

Rates for Riding Poſt.

*liſh*

*ish* Mile, and Four Pence of like Money for the Perſon riding as Guide for every Stage; and the Deputy or Deputies of ſuch Poſtmaſter General ſhall not charge any Perſon riding Poſt, for the carrying of any Bundle or Parcel of Goods, carried along with them in their Way of Travel, ſo as any ſuch Bundle or Parcel of Goods do not exceed the Weight of Eighty Pounds *Averdupoize*, to be laid on the Horſe laid by the Guide; and no Deputy ſhall be obliged to carry above that Weight for any Perſon riding Poſt.

**And whereas**, upon the Arrival of Ships from Parts beyond the Seas, into ſeveral Ports within Her Majeſty's Dominions, many Letters directed to ſeveral Merchants and others, have been either imbezzilled or long detained, to the great Damage of the Merchants and others, to whom the ſame were directed, in want of that ſpeedy Advice and Intelligence which they might have had, if the ſame had been forthwith diſpatched by the ſettled Poſts, and ſometimes ſuch Letters have been delivered by the Maſters or Paſſengers of ſuch Ships, to ignorant and looſe Hands, that underſtand not the Ways

Ways and Means of ſpeedy Convey-
ance and Delivery of Letters, whereby
great Prejudice hath accrued to the
Affairs of Merchants and others, as
well by the Miſcarriage of many Let-
ters ſo brought, as oftentimes by the
Opening the ſame, to the Diſcovery of
the Correſpondency and Secrets of the
Merchants; **be it therefore further
enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid,
That all Letters and Packets, that by
any Maſter of any Ship or Veſſel, or
any of his Company, or any Paſſen-
gers therein, ſhall or may be brought
to any Port Town, or which ſhall ar-
rive or touch at any Port belonging to
any Port Town within any Her Ma-
jeſty's Dominions, or any the Mem-
bers thereof, or which ſhall be on
Board any Ship or Veſſel, that ſhall or
do touch or ſtay at any ſuch Port Town
(other than ſuch Letters as are before
excepted) or may be ſent by common
known Carriers in Manner aforeſaid,
or by a Friend as aforeſaid, ſhall by
ſuch Maſter, Paſſenger, or other Per-
ſon or Perſons, be forthwith delivered
unto the Deputy or Deputies only of
ſuch Poſtmaſter General for the time
being, by him appointed for ſuch Place
or

At Port Towns Deputy Poſtmaſter to receive all Letters from on Board Ships, &c.

r Port Town, and to be by ſuch De-
uty or Deputies ſent Poſt unto the
id General Poſt Office, to be deli-
ered according to the ſeveral and re-
pective Directions of the ſame, upon
ain of forfeiting the Sum of Five
ounds of *Britiſh* Money, for every
veral Offence againſt the Tenor of
is preſent Act.

And for the Encouragement of all
ch Maſters of Ships or Veſſels, or
ch other Perſons, on their Arrival at
ch Ports as aforeſaid, from any Parts
eyond the Seas, to deliver unto the
eputy or Deputies of ſuch Poſtmaſter
eneral, for ſuch Place or Port Town
which they ſhall ſo touch or arrive,
l ſuch Letters and Packets as they
all reſpectively have on Board ſuch
eſſel or Veſſels, every ſuch Maſter, or
ther Perſon, for every Letter, or Pac-
et of Letters he or they ſhall ſo de-
ver unto ſuch Deputy or Deputies,
all receive the Sum of One Penny of
ch Deputy or Deputies, he or they
gning a Certificate of the Number
f Letters delivered, and by what Veſ-
el they came, and of the Time when
e or they delivered the ſame to ſuch
eputy or Deputies, and giving a Re-
ceipt

And to give the Bringer a Penny a Letter, &c.

ceipt for ſuch Number of Pence as he or they ſhall receive of ſuch Deputy or Deputies; which Certificate and Receipt ſhall be by ſuch Deputy, by the next Poſt, returned to the ſaid Poſtmaſter General, together with the Letters ſo delivered, who ſhall have Credit on his Account for ſo much Money, as any ſuch Deputy ſhall pay on that Account.

None to carry Letters, &c. but the Poſtmaſter General, or his Deputies;

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That no Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, or Body Politick or Corporate, in any Part of theſe Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, or other Her Majeſty's Plantations and Colonies in the *Weſt Indies* and *America*, other than ſuch Poſtmaſter General as ſhall, from time to time, be nominated and appointed by Her Majeſty, Her Heirs, and Succeſſors, and conſtituted by Letters Patents under the Great Seal of *Great Britain*, as aforeſaid, and his Deputy and Deputies, or Aſſigns, ſhall preſume to receive, take up, order, diſpatch, convey, carry, recarry, or deliver any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters (other than as before excepted) or make any Collection of Letters, or ſet up or employ any

Foot

Foot Poſt, Horſe-Poſt, or Packet Boat, or other Veſſel or Boat, or other Perſon or Perſons, Conveyance or Conveyances whatſoever, for the receiving, taking up, ordering, diſpatching, conveying, carrying, recarrying, or delivering any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, by Sea or by Land, or on any River within Her Majeſty's Dominions, or by means whereof any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, ſhall be collected, received, taken up, ordered, diſpatched, conveyed, carried, recarried, or delivered, by Sea or Land, or on any River within Her Majeſty's Dominions (other than as before excepted) or ſhall preſume to keep, provide, and maintain, Horſes or Furniture for the Horſing of any Perſon or Perſons riding Poſt; that is to ſay, riding ſeveral Stages upon a Poſt Road, and changing Horſes; or ſhall let to Hire, or furniſh any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever with Horſes or Furniture for riding Poſt, as aforeſaid, on any of the Poſt Roads or Stages now or hereafter to be appointed, with or without a Guide or Horn, for Hire or Reward, or on any Agreement or Promiſe of Reward, or where-

or provide Horſes for riding Poſt.

by

by he or they may have any Profit o
Penalty. Advantage, on Pain of forfeiting th
Sum of Five Pounds of *Britiſh* Mone
for every ſeveral Offence againſt th
Tenor of this preſent Act; and alſo
the Sum of One hundred Pounds
like *Britiſh* Money for every Wee
that any Offender againſt this Act ſha
collect, receive, take up, order, di
patch, convey, carry, recarry, or del
ver, any Letter or Letters, Packet
Packets of Letters, by Sea or Lan
or on any River within Her Majeſty
Dominions (other than as before e
cepted) or that ſhall preſume to ſet u
continue, or employ, any Foot Po
Horſe Poſt, or Packet Boat, or oth
Veſſel or Boat, or any other Perſ
or Perſons, Conveyance or Conve
ances whatſoever, for the receiving, ta
ing up, ordering, diſpatching, conve
ing, carrying, recarrying, or delive
ing, of any Letter or Letters, Pack
or Packets of Letters, by Sea or Lan
or on any River within Her Majeſty
Dominions, as aforeſaid.

Deputy Poſtmaſter to account for By or Way Letters. **And whereas** divers Deputy Poſt
maſters do collect great Quantities
Poſt Letters called By or Way Letter
and by clandeſtine and private Agre
ment

nents amongſt themſelves, do convey
he ſame Poſt in their reſpective Mails,
r By Bags, according to their ſeveral
Directions, without accounting for the
me, or endorſing the ſame on their
ills, to the great Detriment of Her
Majeſty's Revenues: For preventing
hereof for the time to come, **be it**
**enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid,
That if at any Time hereafter, any
erſon or Perſons employed as a De-
uty Poſtmaſter or otherwiſe, in theſe
Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *Ire-*
*nd*, or in any of Her Majeſty's Do-
minions and Territories in the *Weſt*
*ndies*, or in *North America*, ſhall not
aly anſwer and account to Her Ma-
eſty, Her Heirs, and Succeſſors, for
l ſuch By or Way Letters as ſuch
Deputy or Deputies, or any by his,
er, or their Order ſhall receive the
ort for, or that ſhall not on his or her
oſt Bills exactly mention all the By
r Way Letters he, ſhe, or they ſhall
r do receive, or which ſhall come to
is, her, or their Hand or Hands, Cu-
tody or Power, diſtinguiſhing them
verally, whether Single, Double,
reble, or Ounce Weight, or that ſhall
eſtroy or imbezil any ſuch By Letter

or By Letters, Packet or Packets of Letters, every ſuch Perſon ſo offending ſhall forfeit and pay, for every ſuch Offence, ſuch Penalties and Forfeitures as the Perſons herein before prohibited ſetting up or employing other Poſts, or collecting, carrying, recarrying, ordering, diſpatching, or delivering Letters and Packets, contrary hereunto, are enacted to forfeit and pay.

Penalties how to be recovered.

**And it is hereby enacted,** That all and ſingular the ſaid ſeveral Penalties and Forfeitures by this Act impoſed on any Offender or Offenders againſt the ſame, or any Part thereof, ſhall and may be ſued for and recovered by Action or Actions of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of Her Majeſty's Courts of Record, wherein no Eſſoin, Privilege, Protection, or Wager at Law ſhall be admitted; and the ſaid ſeveral and reſpective Penalties and Forfeitures, that ſhall happen, from time to time, to be recovered, ſhall be and remain, the one Moiety thereof to Her Majeſty, Her Heirs, and Succeſſors, and the other Moiety thereof to ſuch Perſon or Perſons who ſhall or will inform againſt the Offender or Offenders againſt this preſent Act, and

ſhall

hall and will ſue for the ſaid Penalties nd Forfeitures upon the ſame; and n every ſuch Recovery, ſuch Perſon r Perſons ſo informing, and proſecut- ng for the ſaid Penalties and Forfei- ures, ſhall recover, and have alſo taxed nd paid their full Coſts of Suit.

**Provided always,** That if any oſtmaſter of any reſpective Stages on ny Poſt Roads, in any Her Majeſty's Dominions now ſettled, or hereafter to e ſettled, doth not or cannot furniſh ny Perſon or Perſons riding in Poſt, ith ſufficient Horſes within the Space f One half Hour after Demand, that hen ſuch Perſon or Perſons is and are ereby underſtood to be left at Liberty o provide themſelves as conveniently s they can to the next Stage, and ſo at very Stage where he or they ſhall not e furniſhed as aforeſaid; and the Per- n or Perſons who ſhall furniſh ſuch Horſes, ſhall not therefore be liable to ny Penalties or Forfeitures contained n this Act, by reaſon thereof.

Proviſo, when Poſtmaſter doth not furniſh Horſes in One half Hour.

**Provided always,** That if through Default or Neglect of the Poſtmaſter General, or his Deputy for the time eing, any Perſon or Perſons riding in Poſt ſhall fail, as aforeſaid, of being

Penalty on Poſtmaſter not providing.

furniſhed with a ſufficient Horſe or Horſes for his or their Uſe, after Demand as aforeſaid, that then, and in every ſuch Caſe, the Poſtmaſter General, or his Deputy, ſo offending, ſhall forfeit the Sum of Five Pounds Sterling, the One Moiety to Her Majeſty, Her Heirs, or Succeſſors, and the other Moiety to him or them who ſhall ſue for the ſame in any Court of Record, to be recovered and divided as aforeſaid.

Letters may be ſent from any Place, to the next Stage about 6 Miles from the General Office.

**Provided always, and be it further enacted,** That nothing herein contained ſhall be underſtood to prohibit the carrying or recarrying of any Letters or Packets, to or from any Town or Place, to or from the next reſpective Poſt Road or Stage appointed for that Purpoſe, above Six Miles from the ſaid General Poſt Office, or the chief Offices of *Edinburgh* and *Dublin*, but that every Perſon ſhall have free Liberty to ſend and employ ſuch Perſon or Perſons as they ſhall think fit for to carry the ſaid Letters or Packets as aforeſaid, without any Forfeiture or Penalty therefore; any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithſtanding.

**Provided always nevertheleſs,** That nothing herein contained ſhall be con-

conſtrued to extend to give Licence to any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, to make Collection of Letters in or near the City of *London*, or Suburbs thereof, under Pretence of conveying the ſame to any Parts or Places in the ſaid City or Suburbs, or to the General Office of the ſaid City, without the Licence and Leave of the Poſtmaſter General for the time being; and any Perſon or Perſons acting contrary hereunto, ſhall forfeit and pay as Perſons collecting, receiving, carrying, recarrying, and delivering, Letters contrary to this Act, are hereby enacted to forfeit and pay, to be recovered as aforeſaid, and with full Coſts of Suit.

None may collect Letters in *London*, &c. without Licence, *&c.*

**Provided always**, That if the Packet or Mail ſhall be carried out of *Great Britain*, into any Part or Place beyond the Seas, in any Ship or Veſſel which is not a free Ship, and navigated with ſuch Seamen, as by the Laws of this Land the ſame are required to be, that then, and in every ſuch Caſe, the Poſtmaſter General for the time being ſhall forfeit the Sum of One hundred Pounds Sterling, the one Moiety to Her Majeſty, Her Heirs, and Succeſſors, and the other Moiety to him or

The Packet not to be carried out of *Great Britain* in foreign Ships.

them who ſhall ſue for the ſame in any Court of Record, to be recovered by Bill, Plaint, or other Information, wherein no Eſſoin, Protection, or Wager of Law ſhall be allowed.

Poſtmaſter, &c. how to qualify himſelf.

**Provided always, and be it enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That ſuch Poſtmaſter General, and all Officers and Deputies acting under him, and all Officers belonging to the ſaid General Poſt Office, within that Part of the ſaid United Kingdom called *England*, receiving the Sacrament according to the Uſage of the Church of *England*, and taking, making, and ſubſcribing the Teſt, and the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy, and Abjuration, appointed by any of the Laws of the ſaid Part of the ſaid United Kingdom, to be taken, made, and ſubſcribed, by Officers in publick Places of Truſt in the Government, and within ſuch Times, and in ſuch Places, as are particularly appointed by any of thoſe Laws for doing the ſame, ſhall be deemed and taken to be ſufficiently qualified to act in their reſpective Stations and Duties, and to execute their reſpective Employments throughout the ſaid whole United Kingdom, and all other Her Majeſty's Dominions,

minions, and ſhall not incur any Penalties, Forfeitures, or Diſabilities, for not taking the Oaths of Allegiance and Abjuration, and ſubſcribing the Aſſurance appointed by any the Laws of that Part of the ſaid United Kingdom called *Scotland*, or by any Law or Laws of the ſaid United Kingdom of *Great Britain*, to be taken and made by any Perſon in publick Truſt, notwithſtanding ſuch Poſtmaſter General, and ſuch Deputies and Officers ſhall exerciſe their reſpective Offices or Employments within all and every the Parts and Places of that Part of the ſaid United Kingdom called *Scotland*; and all Deputies and Agents acting under ſuch Poſtmaſter General, within that Part of the ſaid United Kingdom called *Scotland*, taking and making the Oaths of Allegiance and Abjuration, and ſubſcribing the ſame, with the Aſſurance appointed by any of the Laws of the ſaid Part of the ſaid United Kingdom called *Scotland*, or by any Law or Laws of the ſaid United Kingdom of *Great Britain*, to be taken and made by any Perſon in publick Truſt, and within ſuch Times, and at ſuch Places, as are particularly appointed by any of thoſe Laws for doing

the ſame, ſhall be deemed and taken to be ſufficiently qualified to execute and exerciſe their reſpective Employments in the ſaid Office, throughout the ſaid whole United Kingdom, and all other Her Majeſty's Dominions; any Act or Acts of Parliament, in either of the ſaid United Kingdoms, at any Time heretofore made to the contrary thereof in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

Proviſo for *Truro*w, *Penrin*, *Kendall*, *Penrith*, &c.

**Provided alſo, and be it enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That a Letter, or Packet Poſt, ſhall twice every Week come by the Way of *Truro*w and *Penrin* to the Town of *Penzance*, in the County of *Cornwall*; and once a Week to *Kendall*, by the Way of *Lancaſter*; and to the Town of *Penrith* in *Cumberland*, by the Way of *Newcaſtle* and *Carliſle*; and to the City of *Lincoln* and the Borough of *Grimsby*, in the County of *Lincoln*; any thing in this Act contained to the contrary thereof in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

The Poſtmaſter to obſerve ſuch Orders as Her Majeſty ſhall make.

**And** for the better Management of the ſaid Poſt Office, and that the People of theſe Kingdoms may have their Intercourſe of Commerce and Trade the better maintained, and their Letters and Advices conveyed, carried, and

nd recarried with the greateſt Speed, ecurity, and Conveniency that may e; **be it further enacted** by the uthority aforeſaid, That the ſaid oſtmaſter General ſo nominated, ap-ointed, and conſtituted as aforeſaid, nd his Deputies, ſhall from time to ime obſerve and follow ſuch Orders, ules, Directions, and Inſtructions for nd concerning the Settlement of Poſts nd Stages upon the ſeveral Roads in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and other Her Majeſty's Dominions, and the pro-viding and keeping a ſufficient Number f Horſes at the ſaid ſeveral Stages, as well for the carrying and conveying the ſaid Letters and Packets, as for the Horſing of all Perſons riding in Poſt by Warrant, or otherwiſe, as aforeſaid, as Her Majeſty, Her Heirs, and Suc-ceſſors, ſhall from time to time, in that Behalf, make and ordain.

**Provided always, and be it enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That no Perſon or Perſons ſhall have Power to take, uſe, or ſeize any Horſes for the Services mentioned in this Act, without the Conſent of the Owner or Owners thereof; any Law, Statute,

No Horſes to be ſeized without the Owners Conſent.

Uſage, or Cuſtom to the contrary thereof in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

Poſt to pay nothing for paſſing Ferries in *North America.*

**And** foraſmuch as the Poſt muſt neceſſarily paſs ſeveral Ferries in *North America*, in which the Ferrymen give great Delays, and ſometimes have endeavoured to exact Money from them, notwithſtanding the ſame have always been free for the Poſt; **be it therefore enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That no Deputy or Agent of ſuch Poſtmaſter General, travelling with any Mail of Letters, ſhall pay any thing for paſſing or repaſſing any Ferry within any of the Colonies or Plantations of Her ſaid Majeſty in *North America* aforeſaid; but ſuch Ferrymen ſhall forthwith, within One Half Hour after Demand, convey ſuch Deputies, on pain of forfeiting for every Offence the Sum of Five Pounds, to be recovered in any Court of Record within any of the Provinces or Colonies in *North America*, by Bill, Plaint, or Information, wherein no Eſſoin, Protection, or Wager of Law ſhall be allowed; One Moiety thereof to Her Majeſty, Her Heirs, and Succeſſors, towards the Support of the Government of the ſaid Provinces, and the contingent

gingent Charges thereof, and the other Moiety to the Poſtmaſter General, who ſhall ſue and proſecute for the ſame, together with full Coſts of Suit.

Debts for Poſtage to be recovered as ſmall Tythes are.

**And whereas** many Perſons having received their Letters, refuſe to pay for the ſame, or often run in Debt for the Poſtage of their Letters, or having received ſome ſmall Sum for the Port of Letters, which Sums being very ſmall in Particulars, are properly to be recovered in a ſummary Way; **be it therefore enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That all Sum and Sums of Money, not exceeding Five Pounds, that now is, or ſhall be due from any Perſon or Perſons for Letters or Packets, or any Letter or Packet to them delivered by any Deputy or Deputies of ſuch Poſtmaſter General, or which now is, or ſhall be due from any Perſon or Perſons for the Port of Letters or Packets to them delivered by any Deputy or Agent of ſuch Poſtmaſter General, not exceeding the ſaid Value, or which have been, or ſhall be received for the Port of Letters, not exceeding the ſame Value, without anſwering or paying

ing the Monies ſo due and owing to the Receiver General of the ſaid Revenues for Her Majeſty's Uſe, ſhall be recovered before Juſtices of the Peace, in the ſame Manner, and under the ſame Rules, as ſmall Tythes are, by the Laws of *England*, to be recovered; and ſuch Debt or Sums of Money ſhall be preferable in Payment by the Perſon owing the ſame, or from whoſe Eſtate the ſame is or ſhall be due, before any Debt of any Sort to any private Perſon whomſoever.

Inland Letters to pay where delivered.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That all Inland Letters ſent by any Packet Poſt eſtabliſhed by this Act, as aforeſaid, do and ſhall pay the Rates and Prices before mentioned at ſuch Stages at which they are laſt delivered only, unleſs the Party that doth put in the Letters deſireth to pay elſewhere, and unleſs any ſuch Letters are directed on Board any Ship or Veſſel, or to any Perſon in the Army, or are ſent by the Penny Poſt, and unleſs they be Letters or Packets going out of *Great Britain*, which have uſually paid the Rates in *England*; any thing in this Act contained to the contrary

trary thereof in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

**Provided always,** That this Act, or any thing therein contained, ſhall not in any wiſe be prejudicial to the Privileges of the Two Univerſities of *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, or either of them, or to the Chancellors or Scholars of the ſame, or their Succeſſors, but that they may uſe and enjoy ſuch Privileges as heretofore they have lawfully uſed and enjoyed; and that all Letters and other Things may be ſent or conveyed to or from the ſaid Two Univerſities in Manner as heretofore hath been uſed; any thing herein to the contrary notwithſtanding. Proviſo for the Two Univerſities.

**Provided always,** That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the Poſtmaſter General for the time being, his Deputy and Deputies, to continue By Bags for collecting and delivering of By Letters, as hath been heretofore accuſtomed, ſuch Deputy and Deputies duly accounting to, and paying the reſpective Parts thereof to the Receiver General of the ſaid Revenue for the time being, for the Uſe of Her Majeſty, Her Heirs, and Succeſſors. By Bags for By Letters.

**Provided**

Sums due on 1 *June*, 1711, how recoverable.

**Provided always, and be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Sum and Sums of Money which shall or may be due and owing to Her Majesty on the said First Day of *June*, One thousand seven hundred and eleven, for the Duties and Revenues that have arisen, or shall or may arise, to that Time by Posts, or by Reason of the Duties and Revenues granted by either of the said former Acts, shall be paid to the Receiver General of the said Revenue for Her Majesty's Use, and be recovered and recoverable in such Manner, and by such Ways and Means, as the same were recoverable before the making of this present Act; any thing herein contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

After 29 *Sept.* 1711, for 32 Years, 700*l.* to be paid weekly into the Exchequer out of the Post Office.

**And**, towards the Establishment of a good, sure, and lasting Fund, in order to raise a present Supply of Money for carrying on the War, and other Her Majesty's most necessary Occasions; **be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the Twenty ninth Day of *September*, One thousand seven hundred and eleven, for and during the whole

Term

Term of Thirty two Years from thence next and immediately enſuing, the full, clear, and entire weekly Sum of Seven hundred Pounds of lawful Money of *Great Britain*, out of all the Duties and Revenues from time to time riſing by virtue of this Act, ſhall be brought and paid by the Poſtmaſter General, the Receiver General of the Poſt Office, or ſuch other Perſon or Perſons who for the time being ſhall have the Receipt of the ſaid Duties and Revenues, who are hereby reſpectively enjoined and required to bring and pay the ſame accordingly into the Receipt of the Exchequer, upon *Tueſday* in every Week, if it be not a Holy-day; and if it be, then upon the next Day that is not a Holy-day, as one Week ſhall ſucceſſively and immediately follow and ſucceed another; and in caſe in any Week or Weeks the whole Receipt of the Monies of the ſaid Duties or Revenues hereby charged, as aforeſaid, ſhall not be ſufficient to anſwer the ſaid weekly Payment or Payments, hereby directed for ſuch particular Week or Weeks, that then and ſo often the Deficiency and Deficiencies thereof ſhall be ſupplied and

made good out of the whole Receipt of the ſaid Duties or Revenues ariſing in the next Week or Weeks, when the Receipt or Receipts ſhall be ſufficient to bear the ſame; all which Payments into the Exchequer ſhall be made for the Purpoſes, and under the Penalties, Forfeitures, and Diſabilities hereafter in this Act expreſſed.

Accountant General and Receiver General's Duty.

**And it is hereby further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That the Poſtmaſter General for the time being, at the Head Office in *London*, ſhall from time to time cauſe an Account to be kept by an Accountant General of all the Monies ariſing by virtue of this Act, of or for the Duties or Revenues aforeſaid, and every or any of them, as the ſame ſhall from time to time ariſe, be paid or brought into the ſaid Office, to the Hands of the Receiver General for the time being, who is or ſhall be appointed from time to time to receive the ſame; and that ſuch Receiver General for the time being, ſhall, out of the Monies ſo ariſing, make the ſaid weekly Payments into the Exchequer, in manner as aforeſaid; and if the ſaid Poſtmaſter General for the time being, ſhall

ſuſe or neglect to appoint or keep ſuch Accountant General, or if ſuch Accountant General ſhall neglect to keep a juſt and true Account, as aforeſaid, or if ſuch Receiver General ſhall at any Time refuſe or neglect to make any ſuch weekly Payments, as aforeſaid, into the Exchequer, according to the true Meaning of this Act, or if the ſaid Poſtmaſter General, Accountant General, and Receiver General for the time being, or any of them, or any other Officer of the ſaid Duties, ſhall divert or miſapply any of the Monies which ſhould make good the ſaid weekly Payments, or any of them, or any Part thereof, contrary to the Tenor and true Meaning of this Act, at any Time or Times during the ſaid Term of Thirty two Years, then and in any ſuch Caſe, they and every of them ſo offending, ſhall forfeit their ſeveral Offices and Places, and be incapable to ſerve the Queen, Her Heirs, or Succeſſors, in any Office or Place of Truſt or Profit, and ſhall be liable, for every ſuch Offence, to pay double the Value of the Money ſo diverted or miſapplied to any Perſon or Perſons who ſhall or may be grieved by Reaſon of ſuch

ſuch Offence, and will inform or ſ
for the ſame, by Action of Debt,
of the Caſe, Bill, Suit, or Inform
tion, in any of Her Majeſty's Cour
of Record at *Weſtminſter*, wherein
Eſſoin, Protection, Wager of La
or more than One Imparlance ſhall
granted or allowed.

A Book to be kept in the Exchequer, for the weekly Payments.

**And** to the end the ſaid weekly Su
of Seven hundred Pounds may
made a Fund or Security for the Pu
poſes in this Act expreſſed; **be it fur
ther enacted** by the Authority afore
ſaid, That there ſhall be provided an
kept in the Office of the Auditor
the Receipt of the Exchequer, O
Book, in which all the Monies whic
ſhall be paid in weekly, as aforeſaid
for or upon Account of the ſaid week
ly Sums out of the ſaid Duties, ſha
be entered apart and diſtinct from a
other Monies which ſhall be brough
and paid to the ſaid Receipt upon an
other Account whatſoever.

Appropriation of the 700 *l.* a Week.

**Provided always, and it is
hereby enacted,** That the ſaid week
ly Sum of Seven hundred Pounds fo
the Purpoſes aforeſaid, ſhall from tim
to time, during all the ſaid Term o
Thirty two Years, be paid into the
Exchequer,

xchequer, as aforeſaid, out of the hole Produce of the Duties and Re-enues ariſing by virtue of this Act, ith Preference to all other Payments hich are, ſhall, or may be charged chargeable thereupon, the neceſſary harges for managing the ſaid Poſt ffice, and the Duties thereof, and for eceiving, anſwering, and accounting r the Revenues ariſing thereby only ccepted; and that the ſaid Duties d Revenues ariſing by this Act (af-r Deduction, from time to time, to firſt made of ſo much as ſhall be en due and incurred, or in Arrear of for the ſaid weekly Payments, at y Time within or during the Term oreſaid, and after the Allowance of ch neceſſary Charges, as aforeſaid, d not otherwiſe) ſhall from time to e be ſubject and liable to ſuch An-ities, and other Payments and In-mbrances, which by any Act of Par-ment now in Force were lawfully arged upon the Revenues of the Poſt ffice, or any of them granted by the id former Acts hereby repealed, as oreſaid, or which having been charg-d by any Grant upon the ſaid Reve-ues, have been ſaved by Act of Par-liament,

This Reven liable to all Annuities, Grants, *&c.* charged upon the former Act.

liament, of and for ſuch Eſtate an Eſtates in Poſſeſſion, Reverſion, or Re mainder, and ſubject to ſuch Condi tions, Limitations, Reſtrictions, an Appointments, and in ſuch or the like Manner and Form, (and not other wiſe) as the ſaid Revenues, payable b the ſaid former Acts, or any of them would have been ſubject or liable this Act had not been made; any thin herein contained to the contrary not withſtanding.

After 1 *June*, 1743, the old Rates to be taken for Letters, &c.

**Provided always, and be further enacted** by the Author aforeſaid, That from and after the Fir Day of *June*, One thouſand ſeven hu dred forty and three, the ſame Ra and Prices only, and no more, ſha be taken or paid for the Carriage, Co veyance, and Delivery of all Lette and Packets ſent by the Poſt from o Part of *Great Britain* to another, alſo for all Letters brought to Gre *Britain*, or ſent from thence from to any Parts beyond the Seas, tha were authorized or allowed to be tak by the Poſtmaſter General, or his De puty or Deputies, for the Poſtage ſuch Letters, by the ſaid ſeveral Ac hereby repealed.

And

**And whereas** Abuſes may be committed by wilfully opening, imbezilling, detaining, and delaying, of Letters or Packets, to the great Diſcouragement of Trade, Commerce, and Correſpondence; for Prevention thereof, **be it enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the ſaid firſt Day of *June*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and eleven, no Perſon or Perſons ſhall preſume wittingly, willingly, or knowingly, to open, detain, or delay, or cauſe, procure, permit, or ſuffer to be opened, detained, or delayed, any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, after the ſame is or ſhall be delivered to the General or other Poſt Office, or into the Hands of any Perſon or Perſons employed for the receiving or carrying Poſt Letters, and before Delivery to the Perſons to whom they are directed, or for their Uſe; except by expreſs Warrant in Writing under the Hand of One of the Principal Secretaries of State for every ſuch Opening, Detaining, or Delaying; or except in ſuch Caſes where the Party or Parties to whom ſuch Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, ſhall be directed, or who is or are hereby chargeable

No Letters to be opened, detained, or delayed.

Exception.

able with the Payment of the Port or Ports thereof, ſhall refuſe or neglect to pay the ſame; and except ſuch Letters or Packets as ſhall be returned for want of true Directions, and where the Party to whom the ſame is or are directed cannot be found; and that every Perſon and Perſons offending in Manner aforeſaid, or who ſhall imbezil any ſuch Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, ſhall, for every ſuch Offence, forfeit the Sum of Twenty Pounds; the ſaid Penalties for any ſuch Offence committed in *England*, *Wales*, or *Berwick* upon *Tweed*, to be recovered by Action, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of Her Majeſty's Courts of Record at *Weſtminſter*; and for any ſuch Offence committed in that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, to be recovered in the Court of Seſſions or Exchequer there; ſuch Penalties reſpectively to be recovered by ſuch Perſon or Perſons as will inform or ſue for the ſame, together with Full Coſts of Suit; and over and above ſuch Penalty as aforeſaid, every ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo offending as aforeſaid, ſhall be for ever incapable of having, uſing, exerciſing, or enjoying any Office, Truſt, or Employment

ployment in or relating to the Poſt Office, or any Branch thereof.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That no Perſon or Perſons ſhall, after the ſaid Firſt Day of *June*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and eleven, be capable of having, uſing, or exerciſing, the Office or Offices of Poſtmaſter General, or any Part thereof, or any other Employment relating to the Poſt Office, or any Branch thereof, or be any way concerned in receiving, ſorting, or delivering of Letters or Packets, unleſs ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſhall firſt have taken the following Oath before ſome One Juſtice of the Peace for the County or Place where ſuch Perſon reſides; which ſaid Oath ſuch Juſtice of Peace is hereby authorized to adminiſter in the following Words: Poſtmaſter, &c. to be ſworn.

"I A. B. *do ſwear, That I will not wittingly, willingly, or knowingly open, detain, or delay, or cauſe, procure, permit, or ſuffer to be opened, detained, or delayed any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, which ſhall come into my Hands, Power, or Cuſtody, by reaſon of my Employment in or relating to the Poſt Office;* The Oath.

*except*

*except by the Consent of the Person or Persons to whom the same is or shall be directed, or by an express Warrant in Writing under the Hand of One of the Principal Secretaries of State for that Purpose; or except in such Cases where the Party or Parties to whom such Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, shall be directed, or who is or are hereby chargeable with the Payment of the Port or Ports thereof, shall refuse or neglect to pay the same; and except such Letters or Packets as shall be returned for want of true Directions, or when the Party or Parties to whom the same is or shall be directed, cannot be found; and that I will not any way imbezil any such Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, as aforesaid.*

One Third of the Surplus, over and above 111,461 *l. per Ann.* and 700 *l. per* Week, disposable by Parliament.

**And it is further enacted and declared** by the Authority aforesaid, That from the said First Day of *June*, in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eleven, One Third Part of the Surplus of the yearly Produce arising by the said Letter or Post Office, or Duties upon Postage of Letters and Packets by this Act granted, over and above the Sum of One hundred and eleven thousand four hundred

sixty

ſixty one Pounds, Seventeen Shillings, and Ten Pence, which was the Amount of the Groſs Receipt of the Duties riſing by virtue of the ſaid former Acts of Parliament (which are now repealed) for One Year ended the Nine and twentieth Day of *September*, in the Year of our Lord One thouſand ſeven hundred and ten, and over and above the ſaid Sum of Seven hundred Pounds per Week, ſhall be, and is by this Act reſerved to the Diſpoſal of Parliament, for the Uſe of the Publick, and ſhall not be divertible or diverted to any other Uſe, Intent, or Purpoſe, other than according to ſuch Diſpoſal.

And to the Intent the Inheritance of ſuch Part of the ſaid Duties and Revenue ariſing in and by the ſaid General Letter Office or Poſt Office, which is hereby veſted in Her Majeſty, Her Heirs, and Succeſſors, undetorminable as aforeſaid, may be preſerved in the Crown, for the future Benefit thereof; **be it further enacted and declared** by the Authority aforeſaid, That the ſame, or any Part thereof, ſhall not hereafter be alienable, chargeable, or grantable by Her Majeſty, Her Heirs, or Succeſſors, for any Eſtate, Term, or

This Revenue not alienable, &c.

or Time whatſoever, to endure longer than the Life of Her Majeſty, or of ſuch King or Queen as ſhall make ſuch Alienation, Charge, or Grant reſpectively; and that all Gifts, Grants, Alienations, and Aſſurances whatſoever to be had, or made of, and Charges upon the ſaid Duties or Revenue, or any Part thereof, contrary to the Proviſion of this Act, ſhall be null and void, without any Inquiſition, *Scire facias*, or other Proceeding to determine or make void the ſame.

No Officer of the Poſt Office to intermeddle in Elections.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That no Poſtmaſter or Poſtmaſter General, or his or their Deputy or Deputies, or any Perſon employed by or under him or them, in the receiving, collecting, or managing the Revenue of the Poſt Office, or any Part thereof, ſhall, by Word, Meſſage, or Writing, or in ony other Manner whatſoever, endeavour to perſuade any Elector to give, or diſſwade any Elector from giving his Vote for the Choice of any Perſon to be a Knight of the Shire, Citizen, Burgeſs, or Baron of any County, City, Borough, or Cinque Port, to ſerve in Parliament; and every Officer or other Perſon offending

ſending therein, ſhall forfeit the Sum of One hundred Pounds, One Moiety thereof to the Informer, the other Moiety to the Poor of the Pariſh where ſuch Offence ſhall be committed, to be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of Her Majeſty's Courts of Record at *Weſtminſter*, or in the Court of Exchequer in *Scotland*, for the ſaid Offences committed in *England* and *Scotland* reſpectively, wherein no Eſſoin, Protection, or Wager of Law, or any more than One Imparlance ſhall be allowed; and every Perſon convict on any ſuch Suit of the ſaid Offence, ſhall thereby become diſabled and incapable of ever bearing or executing any Office or Place of Truſt whatſoever under Her Majeſty, Her Heirs, or Succeſſors.

Anno ſexto

# GEORGII Regis.

*An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuſes in the Publick Revenues of Exciſe, Cuſtoms, Stamp Duties, Poſt Office, and Houſe Money.*

[So much thereof as relates to the *Poſt Office.*]

AND whereas by an Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her ſaid late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, intitled, *An Act for eſtabliſhing a General Poſt Office for all Her Majeſty's Dominions, and for ſettling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof for the Service of the War, and other Her Majeſty's Occaſions*; the Poſtmaſter General is authorized to demand, have, receive, and take,

Bills of Exchange wrote on the ſame Piece of Paper with a Letter, to be rated as ſo many diſtinct Letters.

take, for Single Letters, or Pieces of Paper, to and from the General Post Office in *London*, to and from any Parts or Places of *Great-Britain*, the Kingdom of *Ireland*, or other His Majesty's Dominions, certain Rates in the same Act mentioned, for the Port of every Single Letter or Piece of Paper: **And whereas** Bills of Exchange are frequently sent wrote on one and the same Piece of Paper with a Letter, and also several Letters to several and distinct Persons are sent wrote upon one and the same Piece of Paper; **be it declared** by the Authority aforesaid, That it was and is the Intent and Meaning of the same Act, that every such Bill, and every such Letter, should be rated, taxed, and paid for as so many several and distinct Letters, according to the Rates within the same Act mentioned; **and be it enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That the same shall be accordingly rated, taxed, and paid for as so many several and distinct Letters, according to the Rates within the same Act mentioned.

**And whereas** by the same Act, it is, amongst other Things, provided, That all Merchants Accounts, not exceeding

ceeding One Sheet of Paper, and all Bills of Exchange, Invoices, and Bills of Lading, are, and ſhall be thereby underſtood to be allowed without Rate in the Price of the Letter: **And whereas** ſome Doubts have been made touching the ſaid Clauſe and Proviſo; **be it therefore enacted and declared** by the Authority aforeſaid, That it was and is the Intent and Meaning of the Act laſt mentioned, and of theſe Preſents, that the Proviſo and Allowance ſhall extend to ſuch Merchants Accounts, Bills of Exchange, Invoices, and Bills of Lading only, as ſhall be ſent to or from the ſaid General Poſt Office in *London*, to or from any Parts or Places beyond the Seas, not within His Majeſty's Dominions; and that all other Merchants Accounts, Bills of Exchange, Invoices, and Bills of Lading, ſhall be rated, taxed, and paid for as ſo many ſeveral Letters, according to the Rates in the ſame Act mentioned, and the true Intent and Meaning of theſe Preſents.

Merchants Accounts, Bills of Exchange, Invoices, &c. wrote on One Sheet of Paper, to extend only to Letters ſent to Foreign Parts.

Anno quarto

# GEORGII II. Regis.

*An Act for obviating a Doubt which hath arisen concerning the usual Allowance made upon the Delivery of Letters sent by the Penny Post to Places out of the Cities of* London *and* Westminster, *and Borough of* Southwark, *and the respective Suburbs thereof.*

WHEREAS upon the first Establishment of the Office called the *Penny-Post Office*, the Carriage or Conveyance of the Letters by that Post was confined to the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, the Borough of *Southwark*, and the respective Suburbs thereof; and whereas upon the Application of the Inhabitants of several Towns and Places Preamble.

within the Compaſs of Ten Miles round the City of *London*, and upon their voluntary Offer to allow and pay to the Meſſengers, or Perſons carrying or tranſmitting ſuch Letters, in conſideration of their being obliged to travel with an Horſe to Places at that Diſtance, One Peny upon the Delivery of every Letter directed to any Perſon at any Place out of the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and Borough of *Southwark*, and the reſpective Suburbs thereof, over and above the Peny paid upon putting every ſuch Letter into the Peny-Poſt Office in *London*, the Carriage and Conveyance of Letters and Packets by the ſaid Poſt, commonly called the *Peny Poſt*, was extended Ten Miles round the City of *London*, and One Peny hath been conſtantly allowed to, and taken by ſuch Meſſengers, on the Delivery of every Letter directed to any Perſon at any Place out of the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, the Borough of *Southwark*, and the reſpective Suburbs thereof, over and above the Peny paid upon putting ſuch Letter into the Peny-Poſt Office in *London*; and whereas, by

by reaſon of the Proviſions contained in an Act of Parliament made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her late Majeſty Queen *Anne* [intituled, *An Act for eſtabliſhing a General Poſt Office for all Her Majeſty's Dominions, and for ſettling a weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof for the Service of the War, and other Her Majeſty's Occaſions*] ſome Doubts have lately ariſen, whether the Meſſengers, or Perſons carrying or tranſmitting ſuch Letters, could lawfully receive and take the ſaid Allowance of One Peny, upon the Delivery of every Letter, directed or delivered to or for any Perſon, at any Place out of the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, the Borough of *Southwark*, and the reſpective Suburbs thereof, over and above the Peny paid upon putting ſuch Letter into the Peny Poſt Office in *London*; For obviating and taking away all ſuch Doubts, **be it declared and enacted** by the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty, by and with the Advice and Conſent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this preſent Parliament aſſembled, and by the Authority of the

Penny Poſtmen carrying Letters out of *London*, *Weſtminſter*, or *Southwark*, may demand 1*d.* at Delivery.

ſame, That nothing in the ſaid Act of the Ninth Year of Her ſaid late Majeſty's Reign, ſhall or ought to be conſtrued to extend to reſtrain or hinder any ſuch Meſſenger or Perſon carrying or tranſmitting Letters by the ſaid Poſt, commonly called the *Peny Poſt*, from demanding or taking for every Letter originally ſent by the Peny Poſt, and not firſt paſſing by the General Poſt, and from thence tranſmitted by the Peny Poſt, which hath been, or ſhall be delivered to or for any Perſon, at any Place out of the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, the Borough of *Southwark*, and the reſpective Suburbs thereof, One Peny over and above the Peny paid upon putting every ſuch Letter into the Peny Poſt Office, and that no ſuch Meſſenger, or other Perſon, ſhall incur, or ſhall be deemed, adjudged, or taken to have incurred, or to incur, any Penalty or Forfeiture whatſoever, for demanding and taking for any ſuch Letter ſo delivered, or to be delivered, as aforeſaid, One Peny, over and above the Peny paid upon putting ſuch Letter into the Peny Poſt Office,

Office, or for detaining or delaying any ſuch Letter, until ſuch One Peny for any ſuch Letter ſo delivered, or to be delivered, as aforeſaid, was or ſhall be paid; any thing in the ſaid Act, or in any other Law or Statute to the contrary in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

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Anno

Anno vicesimo sexto

# GEORGII II. Regis.

*An Act for the more effectually preventing the fraudulent Removal of Tobacco by Land or Water, and for the Ease of the Fair Trader in Tobacco; and for ascertaining the Rates payable for the Portage of certain Letters; and for amending and explaining the Laws relating to the Sale of Spirituous Liquors by Retail.*

[So much thereof as relates to the *Post Office*.]

AND whereas by an Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her late Majesty Queen *Anne*, intitled, *An Act for establishing a General Post Office for all Her Majesty's Dominions, and for settling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues there-* Act 9 *Anne.*

of

*of for the Service of the War, and other Her Majesty's Occasions*; the Post-master General, and his Deputy and Deputies, is and are authorized to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Portage and Conveyance of every Single Letter or Piece of Paper sent to and from the General Post Office in *London*, to and from any Parts or Places in *Great Britain*, or the Kingdom of *Ireland*, certain Rates in the said Act mentioned: **And whereas** One or more Writ or Writs, or other Proceedings at Law, are frequently sent inclosed in a Letter, or wrote upon one and the same Piece of Paper with a Letter; **be it declared and enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That every such Writ, and every such Proceeding at Law, shall be rated, taxed, and paid for as a several and distinct Letter, according to the Rates mentioned in the said Act.

Every Writ, &c. to pay as a distinct Letter.

**And whereas** Patterns of Cloth, Silk, Stuff, and small Samples of other Sorts of Goods and other Things, not being Paper, are frequently inclosed in a Single Letter or Piece of Paper; **be it declared and enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That for every Single Letter or Cover containing One

One or more Paper or Papers with Patterns, or containing One or more Pattern or Patterns of Cloth, Silk, or Stuff, or One or more Sample or Samples of any other Sort of Goods, or One or more Piece or Pieces of any other Sort of Thing incloſed therein, or affixed thereto, though not Paper, if the ſame together do not weigh an Ounce Weight, the Rates payable by the ſaid Act for a Double Letter ſhall be paid, and no more.

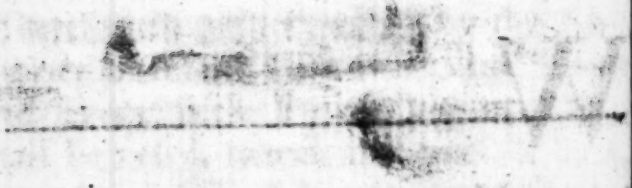
Letters incloſing ſeveral Patterns not exceeding 1 Ounce Weight, to pay only as a Double Letter.

Anno

Letters inclosing several Patterns not exceeding 1 Ounce Weight, to pay only as a Double Letter.

or more Paper or Papers with Patterns, or containing One or more Pattern or Patterns of Cloth, Silk, or

or One or more Sample or Samples of any other Sort of Goods, or One or more Piece or Pieces of any other Sort or Thing inclosed therein, or affixed thereto, though not more if the same together do not exceed an Ounce Weight, the Rates payable by the said Act for a Double Letter shall be paid, and no more.



Anno

Anno quarto

# GEORGII III. Regis.

## CAP. XXIV.

*An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuses in relation to the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Postage.*

Preamble.

WHEREAS, under Colour of the Privilege of sending and receiving Post Letters by Members of Parliament, free from the Duty of Postage, many great and notorious Frauds have been and still are frequently practised, as well in derogation of the Honor of Parliament, as to the Detriment of the Public Revenue; divers Persons having presumed to counterfeit the Hand, and otherwise fraudulently

fraudulently to make uſe of the Names of Members of Parliament, upon Letters and Packets to be ſent by the Poſt, in order to avoid the Payment of the Duty of Poſtage: And whereas the Allowance of ſending and receiving Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Poſtage, heretofore granted to, or cuſtomarily exerciſed by, certain Perſons not being Members of Parliament, in reſpect of their Offices, has not been ſufficiently confined to ſuch Letters and Packets only as relate to the Buſineſs of their reſpective Offices, and may therefore, if continued without further Reſtrictions and Limitations, be liable to great Abuſe: In order therefore to put the more effectual Stop to theſe and the like Frauds and Abuſes, and at the ſame Time to aſcertain, for the better Guidance and Direction of His Majeſty's Poſt Maſter General, and the Officers to be employed under him, in the Performance of their Duty, by what Perſons only, and under what Regulations or Reſtrictions, the Privileg-

of

or Allowance of ſending and receiving Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Poſtage ſhall thenceforth be enjoyed and exerciſed, May it pleaſe Your Majeſty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty, by and with the Advice and Conſent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this preſent Parliament aſſembled, and by the Authority of the ſame, That from and after the Firſt Day of *May*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty four, ſo long as the Revenue ariſing in the General Letter Office or Poſt Office, or Office of Poſt Maſter General, ſhall continue to be carried to, and made Part of the Aggregate Fund, no Letters or Packets ſent by the Poſt, to or from any Place whatſoever, ſhall be exempted from paying the Duty of Poſtage, according to the Rates eſtabliſhed by the ſeveral Acts of Parliament now in Force; other than and except ſuch Letters and Packets as are herein after excepted, and in ſuch Manner, and under

From and after 1 *May*, 1764, while the Revenue of the Poſt Office ſhall continue to be carried to the Aggregate Fund,

der such Restrictions, as are herein after declared and enacted concerning the same; that is to say, Except all such Letters and Packets as shall be sent from or to the King's most Excellent Majesty; all Letters and Packets, not exceeding the Weight of Two Ounces, sent from and to any Places within the Kingdoms of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, during the Sitting of any Session of Parliament, or within Forty Days before or Forty Days after any Summons or Prorogation of the same, which shall be signed, on the Outside thereof, by any Member of either of the Two Houses of Parliament of *Great Britain*, and whereof the Whole Superscription shall be of the Hand Writing of such Member, or which shall be directed to any Member of either House of the Parliament of *Great Britain*, at any of the Places of his usual Residence, or at the Time of the Delivery thereof, or at the House of Parliament, or the Lobby of the House of Parliament of which

no Letters or Packets shall be exempted from Poltage, but such as shall be sent from or to the King; and such, not exceeding two Ounces in Weight, as shall be sent during the Session of Parliament, or within 40 Days before or after Summons or Prorogation, and be signed on the Outside by a Member of either House, and the Whole of the Superscription to be of such Member's Writing; or, directed to a Member, at his usual Residence, or Place where he shall then be, or at the House, &c. of Parliament:

which he is a Member; all Letters and Packets, not exceeding the Weight of Two Ounces, sent from and to any Places within the Kingdom of *Ireland*, during the Sitting of any Session of Parliament of *Ireland*, or within Forty Days before or Forty Days after any Summons or Prorogation thereof, which shall be signed on the Outside thereof, by any Member of either of the Two Houses of the Parliament of *Ireland*, and whereof the Whole Superscription shall be of the Hand Writing of such Member, or which being sent, during such Time as aforesaid, from any Part of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*, to any Part of *Ireland*, shall be directed to any Member of either House of the Parliament of *Ireland*, at any of the Places of his usual Residence, or at the Place where he shall actually be at the Time of the Delivery thereof, or at the House of Parliament, or the Lobby of the House of Parliament of which he is a Member; all Letters and Packets directed to the Lord

And in like Manner, Letters and Packets sent from and to Places in *Ireland*, during the Sessions there, or within 40 Days before or after Summons or Prorogation signed and directed as aforesaid;

Also all Letters and Packets to the Lord High Treasurer, or Commissioners, and Secretaries to the Treasury;

Lord High Admiral, Commissioners and Secretaries to the Admiralty;

Principal Secretaries of State, and their Under Secretaries;

Lord High Treaſurer, or Commiſſioners of the Treaſury, or the Secretaries to the Treaſury; to the Lord High Admiral, or Commiſſioners of the Admiralty, or the Secretaries of the Admiralty; to His Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State, or their Under Secretaries; to the Commiſſioners for Trade and Plantations, or their Secretary; to His Majeſty's Secretary at War, or the Deputy Secretary at War; or to His Majeſty's Lieutenant General, or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland*, and his or their Chief Secretary, his or their Secretary for the Provinces of *Ulſter* and *Munſter* in that Kingdom, his or their Secretary reſiding always in *Great Britain*, the Under Secretary and Firſt Clerk in the Office in *Ireland* of the ſaid Chief Secretary, the Firſt Clerk in the Office in *Ireland* of the ſaid Secretary for the Provinces of *Ulſter* and *Munſter*; or to His Majeſty's Poſtmaſter General, or to the Deputy of the Poſtmaſter General, for

Commiſſioners for Trade and Plantations, or their Secretary; Secretary at War, or his Deputy; Lieutenant General, or other Chief Governor or Governors of *Ireland*, or their Chief Secretary, or Secretary for the Provinces of *Ulſter* and *Munſter*; their Secretary reſiding in *Great Britain*; the Under Secretary, and Firſt Clerk, in the Office in *Ireland* of the Chief Secretary, and the Firſt Clerk in the Office of the Secretary for *Ulſter* and *Munſter*, the Poſtmaſter General, or Deputy for *Scotland*, *Ireland*, and *America*;

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that Part of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, for the Kingdom of *Ireland*, or for His Majeſty's Dominions in *America* reſpectively; or to the Secretary of ſuch Poſtmaſter General, or Deputy of the Poſtmaſter General, or to the Farmer of the Bye and Croſs Road Letters, or to any of the Surveyors of the Poſt Office, all for the time being; and all Letters and Packets ſent from any of the ſaid Officers for the time being, which ſhall be ſigned, on the Outſide thereof, by ſuch Officer, and whereof the Whole Superſcription ſhall likewiſe be of the Hand Writing of ſuch Officer; and alſo except all Letters and Packets ſent from the Treaſury, the Admiralty Office, the Office of His Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State, the Plantation Office, the War Office, or from the General Poſt Office at *London*, or from any of the Chief Offices at *Edinburgh*, at *Dublin*, or in *America*, and which ſhall appear, by an Indorſement made thereupon by ſome Perſon properly authorized as herein

the Secretary, or Deputy of the Poſtmaſter General; Farmer of the Bye and Croſs Road Letters; Surveyors of the Poſt Office; and Letters and Packets ſent from any of the ſaid Offices, ſigned by them on the Outſide, and the Whole Superſcription of their Writing;

and Letters and Packets from the Treaſury, Admiralty Office, Office of the Secretaries of State, Plantation Office, War Office, General Poſt Office at *London*, Chief Offices at *Edinburgh*, *Dublin*, and *America*, indorſed for the King's Service,

herein after mentioned to make the ſame, to be upon His Majeſty's Service, and ſhall be ſealed with the Seal of the Office, or with the Seal of the Principal Officer, in the Office or Department from which they are ſent.

and ſealed with the Seal of Office, or of the Principal Officer in the Department.

**And,** for more effectually preventing all ſuch Frauds and Abuſes as might otherwiſe be practiſed under colour of the Allowance hereby granted and continued, of ſending Letters and Packets from the ſeveral Offices and Officers herein before mentioned free from the Duty of Poſtage; **be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful for the Lord High Treaſurer, or Commiſſioners of the Treaſury, the Lord High Admiral, or Commiſſioners of the Admiralty, His Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State, the Commiſſioners for Trade and Plantations, His Majeſty's Secretary at War, His Majeſty's Poſtmaſter General, and the Deputies of the Poſtmaſter General herein before mentioned, all for the time being, to authorize and

Commiſſioners of the Treaſury, and Admiralty,

the Secretaries of State, Commiſſioners for Trade and Plantations, Secretary at War, Poſtmaſter General, and his Deputies,

nd direct certain Perſons in each of their Offices or Departments reſpectively, a Liſt of whoſe Names ſhall be rom time to time tranſmitted, by the Principal Officer or Officers authorizing the ſame, to the General Poſt Office in *London*, to make and ſubſcribe n Indorſement upon each Letter or Packet which ſhall concern the public Buſineſs of their reſpective Offices, ignifying that ſuch Letter or Packet upon His Majeſty's Service, and to al the ſame with the Seal of ſuch Office or Officer reſpectively; all which erſons are hereby ſtrictly forbid ſo to ndorſe and ſeal any Letter or Packet hatſoever, unleſs ſuch only concerning which they ſhall receive the ſpecial irection of their ſuperior Officer, or hich they ſhall themſelves know to oncern the Buſineſs of their reſpective ffices; and if any Perſon employed any of the ſaid Offices, ſhall knowgly make and ſubſcribe ſuch Indorſeent, or procure the ſame to be made on any Letter or Packet which does

impowered to authorize certain Perſons in their reſpective Offices, of whom Liſts to be tranſmitted to the General Poſt Office, *London*, to indorſe the Letters and Packets upon the King's Service,

and ſeal the ſame with the Seal of Office, *&c.*

None to be ſo indorſed and ſealed,

but by Direction of their ſuperior Officer,

or which concerns the Buſineſs of the Office,

not really concern the Buſineſs of the Office in reſpect of which he is authorized to make the ſame, he ſhall, for the Firſt Offence, forfeit and pay the Sum of Five Pounds, to be recovered and applied in ſuch Manner as, by the Act of the Ninth Year of the Reign of Queen *Anne* for eſtabliſhing a General Poſt Office, is directed, with reſpect to the Penalties inflicted by the ſaid Act; and, for the Second Offence, ſhall be diſmiſſed from his Office.

on Forfeiture of 5 *l.* for the Firſt Offence,

to be recovered and applied as by Act 9 *Anne* is directed;

and for the Second Offence, the Offender to be diſmiſſed.

**Provided always,** That the Number of Perſons ſo to be appointed, in each of the Offices above mentioned, to make and ſubſcribe ſuch Indorſement as aforeſaid, ſhall not exceed Two in any One Office or Department, except only in the Admiralty Office and the War Office; and that the Number ſo to be appointed in the Admiralty Office, ſhall not exceed Eight in Time of Peace, or Twelve in Time of War; and that the Number ſo to be appointed in the War Office ſhall

Perſons appointed to make ſuch Indorſements, not to exceed 2 in any Office,

Admiralty and War Offices excepted; and in the Admiralty not to exceed 8 in Time of Peace, and 12 in Time of War; and in the War Office, not to exceed 6 in Time of Peace,

not exceed Six in Time of Peace, or Ten in Time of War.

and 10 in Time of War.

**Provided alſo, and be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That in caſe any Perſon intitled to ſend Letters or Packets free of the Duty of Poſtage, being, by bodily Infirmity, diſabled from writing the Whole Superſcription of ſuch Letters or Packets, ſhall chooſe to authorize and appoint ſome One Perſon, on his Behalf, and in his Stead, to ſign his Name upon, and write the Superſcription of, ſuch Letters and Packets, and ſhall cauſe Notice thereof in Writing, under his Hand and Seal, to be tranſmitted to His Majeſty's Poſtmaſter General, all Letters and Packets, ſo ſigned and ſuperſcribed by the Perſon ſo authorized and appointed, ſhall be allowed to paſs free of the Duty of Poſtage, and ſhall, in all Reſpects, be proceeded with, as if the Whole Superſcription had been of the Hand Writing of the Perſon by whom ſuch Authority was given as aforeſaid.

Where any privileged Perſon, diſabled from writing the Whole Superſcription,

ſhall authorize ſome Perſon to ſign his Name upon, and write the Superſcription,

and give Notice thereof under his Hand and Seal to the Poſtmaſter General,

Letters and Packets, ſo ſigned and ſuperſcribed, ſhall go free.

Printed Votes, and Proceedings in Parliament,

**Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted,** That nothing herein contained ſhall extend to charge with the Duty of Poſtage, any printed Votes, or Proceedings in Parliament, or printed News Papers, being ſent without Covers, or in Covers open at the Sides, which ſhall be ſigned, on the Outſide thereof, by the Hand of any Member of Parliament, in ſuch Manner as hath been heretofore practiſed, or which ſhall be directed to any Member of Parliament, at any Place whereof he ſhall have given Notice in Writing to the Poſtmaſter General, or to his Deputy at *Edinburgh* or *Dublin* reſpectively, but that all ſuch Votes, Proceedings, and News Papers, ſo ſent and ſigned or directed as aforeſaid, ſhall be received free of the Duty of Poſtage; any thing in this or any former Act to the contrary notwithſtanding.

and News Papers, ſent without Covers,

or in Covers open at the Sides,

and ſigned on the Outſide by a Member,

or directed to a Member, according to Notice given by him to the Poſtmaſter General, or his Deputy at *Edinburgh* or *Dublin*,

are to go free.

**And** foraſmuch as it hath been uſual for the Clerks in the Offices of His Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State, and

and alſo for certain Officers in the Office of His Majeſty's Poſtmaſter General, to frank printed Votes, and Proceedings in Parliament, and printed News Papers, to be ſent by the Poſt; **be it therefore enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful for ſuch Clerks and Officers as aforeſaid, being thereunto licenſed by His Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State, or His Majeſty's Poſtmaſter General reſpectively, to continue to frank ſuch printed Votes, and Proceedings in Parliament, and printed News Papers, in ſuch Manner as they have heretofore been accuſtomed to frank the ſame; provided that ſuch printed Votes, Proceedings, and News Papers, ſhall be ſent without Covers, or in Covers open at the Sides.

Clerks in the Office of the Secretaries of State, and Poſt Office, being duly licenſed, may continue to frank the Votes, and Proceedings in Parliament, and News Papers, as heretofore; ſending the ſame without Covers, or in Covers open at the Sides.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful for His Majeſty's Poſtmaſter General, or any of the Officers employed under him, to examine and

Poſtmaſter General, and Officers under him, may ſearch any Packet ſent without a Cover, or in a Cover open at the Sides;

and if they ſhall find any other Paper or Thing incloſed therein,

ſearch any Packet ſent without a Cover, or in a Cover open at the Sides, in order to diſcover whether any other Paper or Thing whatſoever be incloſed or concealed in or with ſuch printed Paper, as is hereby permitted to be ſent free of Poſtage without a Cover, or in a Cover open at the Sides; and in caſe any ſuch other Paper or Thing whatſoever ſhall be found to be incloſed or concealed in or with ſuch printed Paper as aforeſaid, or in caſe there ſhall be any Writing, other than the Superſcription upon ſuch printed Paper, or upon the Cover thereof, the Whole of ſuch Packet ſhall be charged with the Duty of Poſtage, according to the Rates eſtabliſhed by the ſeveral Acts of Parliament now in Force for that Purpoſe.

or there ſhall be any Writing, other than the Superſcription upon the printed Paper, or Cover, the Whole of ſuch Packet is to be charged with the Poſtage.

If any Perſon ſhall, after 1 *June*, 1764, counterfeit the Writing of any Perſon in the Superſcription of any Letter or Packet, to avoid the Poſtage,

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Perſon ſhall, after the Firſt Day of *June*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty four, counterfeit the Hand Writing of any Perſon whatſoever, in the Superſcription

ſcription of any Letter or Packet to be ſent by the Poſt, in order to avoid the Payment of the Duty of Poſtage, every Perſon, ſo offending, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall be tranſported for Seven Years.

he ſhall be adjudged of Felony, and be tranſported for 7 Years.

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Anno quinto

# GEORGII III. Regis.

## CAP. XXV.

*An Act to alter certain Rates of Poſtage, and to amend, explain, and enlarge, ſeveral Proviſions in an Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Queen* Anne, *and in other Acts relating to the Revenue of the Poſt Office.*

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

WHEREAS the Security and Improvement of Correſpondence, throughout Your Majeſty's Dominions, is a Matter of great Concernment, and highly neceſſary for the Preſervation and Extenſion of Trade and Commerce: And whereas by an Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, ſeveral Rates are ſettled for the Port- Preamble.

Port and Conveyance of Letters and Packets paſſing to and from the ſeveral Parts of the *Britiſh* Dominions, in *Europe* and *America*: **And whereas** by the Increaſe of Trade and Commerce ſince the paſſing of the ſaid Act, and by the vaſt Acceſſion of Territory gained by the late Treaty of Peace, ſeveral Communications are opened, and new Poſts have been or may be eſtabliſhed to and from the ſeveral Parts of Your Majeſty's Dominions in *America*, for which the Rates of Poſtage cannot, under the preſent Law, be properly aſcertained: **And whereas** the preſent Rates of Poſtage may in ſome Parts be reduced, and the Revenue nevertheleſs may hereafter be improved, by means of a more extenſive Circulation; We Your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Commons of *Great Britain* in Parliament aſſembled, do moſt humbly beſeech Your Majeſty that it may be **enacted**: **and be it enacted** by the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty, by and with the Advice and Conſent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this preſent Parliament aſſembled, and by the Authority of the

ſame,

ſame, That ſo much of the ſaid Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her ſaid late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, intituled, *An Act for eſtabliſhing a General Poſt Office for all Her Majeſty's Dominions, and for ſettling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof for the Service of the War, and other Her Majeſty's Occaſions*, as eſtabliſhes certain Rates or Sums for the Port or Conveyance of Letters and Packets paſſing between *London* and the *Britiſh* Dominions in *America*, and between any Places within the ſaid Dominions, ſhall from and after the Tenth Day of *October*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty five, be, and is hereby, repealed.

Repeal of ſo much of the Act of 9 *Annæ*, as eſtabliſhes the Rates of Poſtage of Letters between *London* and the *Britiſh* Dominions in *America*, and Places within the ſaid Dominions:

**And**, to the end that more eaſy and equal Rates of Poſtage may be ſettled and eſtabliſhed, and the Benefit of Poſts be in Time extended to every Part of the *Britiſh* Dominions in *America*, **be it enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the ſaid Tenth Day of *October*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty five, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for His Majeſty's Poſt Maſter General for the time being, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto ſufficiently authorized,

And from and after 10 *Oct.* 1765, inſtead of the Rates thereby eſtabliſhed, thoſe following are to take Place.

rized, to and for the Uſe of His Majeſty, His Heirs, and Succeſſors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Port and Conveyance of all and every the Letters, Packets, and other Things, that ſhall be carried or conveyed to or from *London*, from or to any of the *Britiſh* Dominions in *America*, and to or from any Part of the ſaid Dominions, from or to any other Part thereof, according to the ſeveral and reſpective Rates and Sums hereafter mentioned; the ſame being rated either by the Letter, or by the Ounce; that is to ſay,

Rates of Poſtage from *London* to any Port within the *Britiſh* Dominions in *America*, and from any ſuch Port to *London*;

For all Letters and Packets paſſing from *London* to any Port within the *Britiſh* Dominions in *America*, and from any ſuch Port unto *London*, for every Single Letter One Shilling; for every Double Letter Two Shillings; for every Treble Letter Three Shillings; and for every Ounce Four Shillings; and ſo in Proportion for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, or other Things.

and from any Port in the ſaid Dominions to any o-

For all Letters and Packets conveyed by Sea from any Port in the *Britiſh* Dominions in *America*, to any other

other Port within the ſaid Dominions, for every Single Letter Four Pence; for every Double Letter Eight Pence; for every Treble Letter One Shilling; and for every Ounce One Shilling and Four Pence; and ſo in Proportion for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, or other Things,

ther Port therein, by Sea.

For the Inland Conveyance of all Letters and Packets to or from any Chief Poſt Office eſtabliſhed, or to be eſtabliſhed, within the *Britiſh* Dominions in *America*, from or to any other Part of the ſaid Dominions, not exceeding Sixty *Britiſh* Miles diſtant from ſuch Chief Offices reſpectively; or from the Office where ſuch Letters or Packets, not paſſing through any ſuch Chief Office, may be put in; for every Single Letter Four Pence; for every Double Letter Eight Pence; for every Treble Letter One Shilling; and for every Ounce One Shilling and Four Pence; and, being upwards of Sixty ſuch Miles, and not exceeding One hundred ſuch Miles, for every Single Letter Six Pence; for every Double Letter One Shilling; for every Treble Letter One Shilling and Six Pence; and for every Ounce Two Shillings;

Rates of Inland Poſtage in *America*, for any Diſtance not exceeding 60 Miles;

for upwards of 60, and not exceeding 100 Miles;

for upwards of 100, and not exceeding 200 Miles;

Shillings; and, being upwards of One hundred ſuch Miles, and not exceeding Two hundred ſuch Miles, for every Single Letter Eight Pence; for every Double Letter One Shilling and Four Pence; for every Treble Letter Two Shillings; and for every Ounce Two Shillings and Eight Pence; and for

and for upwards of 200, and not exceeding 100 Miles further, &c.

every Diſtance not exceeding One hundred ſuch Miles beyond ſuch Two hundred Miles, and for every ſuch further Diſtance, for every Single Letter Two Pence; for every Double Letter Four Pence; for every Treble Letter Six Pence; and for every Ounce Eight Pence; and ſo in Proportion, according to the ſaid ſeveral and reſpective Rates and Diſtances, for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, or other Things.

Recital of Clauſes in Act 9 *Annæ.*

**And whereas** by certain Clauſes in the ſaid Act, made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her ſaid late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, it is enacted, That all Letters and Packets, that, by any Maſter of any Ship or Veſſel, or any of his Company, or any Paſſengers therein, ſhould or might be brought to any Port Town, or which ſhould ar-

rive

ive or touch at any Port belonging to
ny Port Town within any Her Ma-
ſty's Dominions, or any the Members
hereof, or which ſhould be on Board
ny Ship or Veſſel which ſhould or did
ouch or ſtay at any ſuch Port Town
other than ſuch Letters as in the ſaid
Act are excepted) ſhould, by ſuch
Maſter, Paſſenger, or other Perſon or
Perſons, be forthwith delivered unto
he Deputy or Deputies of ſuch Poſt
Maſter General for the time being
y him appointed for ſuch Place or
Port Town, and to be, by ſuch De-
uty or Deputies, ſent Poſt unto the
aid General Poſt Office, to be deli-
ered according to the ſeveral and re-
pective Directions of the ſame; upon
ain of forfeiting the Sum of Five
ounds of *Britiſh* Money for every
everal Offence againſt the Tenor of
he ſaid Act: **And whereas** the ſaid
Proviſion, in the ſaid above recited
Clauſe, hath been found ineffectual for
he Purpoſes intended; **be it there-
fore further enacted** by the Autho-
ity aforeſaid, That from and after
he Tenth Day of *October*, One thou-
and ſeven hundred and ſixty five, no
Ship or Veſſel ſhall be permitted to

break

From and after 10 *Oct.* 1765, no Veſſel to be admitted to make Entry, or break Bulk, till the Letters on Board are delivered to the Poſt Office;

except in ſuch Caſes where they are to be delivered to the Superintendant of the Quarentine;

break Bulk, or to make any Entry i
any Port in the *Britiſh* Dominions, unt
all Letters and Packets brought b
any Maſter of any ſuch Ship or Ve
ſel, or by any of his Company, o
any Paſſenger on Board the ſame, t
any Port in the ſaid Dominions whe
Poſts are or hereafter may be eſta
bliſhed, and from whence ſuch Le
ters and Packets can or may be di
patched by Poſt, ſhall be delivere
to the Deputy or Deputies, or Agent
of the ſaid Poſt Maſter General fo
the time being, to be by him or the
forwarded, according to their reſpectiv
Directions, in the ſame Courſe tha
other Letters are ſent from ſuch re
ſpective Ports; except ſuch Letter
Commiſſions, and other Matters an
Things, as are excepted in the ſaid A
made in the Ninth Year of the Reig
of Her late Majeſty Queen *Anne*; an
alſo, except all ſuch Letters and Pack
ets as ſhall or may be brought i
any Ship or Veſſel liable to the Pe
formance of Quarentine; all whic
Letters or Packets laſt-mentioned ſha
be delivered, by the Perſon or Perſon
having Poſſeſſion thereof, to the Pe
ſon or Perſons appointed to ſuperinte
th

the Quarentine, that all proper Precautions may be by him or them taken before the Delivery thereof; and when due Care has been had therein, the ſaid Letters or Packets ſhall be by him or them diſpatched, in the uſual and accuſtomed Manner, by the Poſt; and all Maſters, Mariners, Paſſengers, and other Perſon or Perſons, neglecting or refuſing to deliver the Letters or Packets brought by them as aforeſaid, ſhall, for every ſuch Neglect or Refuſal reſpectively, forfeit the Sum of Twenty Pounds; to be ſued for and recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any Court of Record within the Kingdom, Colony, Plantation, or Place, where the Offence ſhall be committed; and no Eſſoin, Privilege, Protection, or Wager of Law, ſhall be admitted; One Moiety of the ſaid Penalty to His Majeſty, His Heirs, and Succeſſors, and the other Moiety thereof to ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall or will inform againſt ſuch Offender or Offenders, and ſue for the ſaid Penalties and Forfeitures; and for every Recovery ſuch Perſon or Perſons, ſo informing and proſecuting for the ſaid Penalties

to be diſpatched by him to the Poſt Office.

Perſons refuſing to deliver up ſuch Letters, forfeit 20 *l.*

One Moiety to the King, the other to the Proſecutor;

with Full Coſts.

Penalties and Forfeitures, ſhall recover and have alſo taxed and paid their Full Coſts of Suit; any thing in the ſaid Act, made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her Majeſty Queen *Anne*, to the contrary thereof notwithſtanding.

1 *d.* extra charged on all Ship Letters not brought by the Packet Boats.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Deputy or Deputies to demand, have, receive, and take, for every ſuch Letter and Packet ſo delivered from any Ship or Veſſel, other than Packet Boats, to ſuch Deputy or Deputies at the Ports in His Majeſty's Dominions, as ſhall be directed to any Place within the Town belonging to ſuch Port, or within the Limits of the Delivery of Letters and Packets by ſuch Deputy and Deputies, the Rate or Sum of One Penny, over and above what may now be received for the ſame.

From and after 10 *Oct.* 1765, the preſent Rates of Poſtage by the General Poſt,

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the Tenth Day of *October*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty five, the Rates now payable for the Poſtage of Letters and Packets, ſent or conveyed by the General Poſt, not exceeding

One

One Poſt Stage in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and not exceeding Two Poſt Stages in that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, do ceaſe and determine; and that from and after the ſaid Tenth Day of *October*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty five, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Poſt Maſter General, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto ſufficiently authorized, to and for the Uſe of His Majeſty, His Heirs, and Succeſſors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Port and Conveyance of all ſuch Letters and Packets which he ſhall convey, carry, or ſend Poſt, within the Kingdom of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, according to the ſeveral Rates and Sums hereafter-mentioned (the ſame being rated either by the Letter or by the Ounce) that is to ſay,

not exceeding 1 Poſt Stage in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and not exceeding 2 in *England*, are to ceaſe,

and the following Rates are to take Place;

For the Port or Conveyance of every Single Letter, ſo conveyed or carried by the Poſt as aforeſaid, not exceeding One whole Poſt Stage from the Office where ſuch Letter may be put in, within the Kingdoms aforeſaid, the Sum of One Penny; for every Double Letter Two Pence; for every Treble Letter

*viz.* Rates for Poſtage not exceeding 1 Poſt Stage;

Letter Three Pence; and for every Ounce Four Pence; and so in Proportion for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, or other Things.

above 1 and not exceeding 2 Post Stages.

And for the Port and Conveyance of every Single Letter, so conveyed or carried by the Post as aforesaid above One Post Stage, and not exceeding Two Post Stages, from the Office where such Letter may be put in, within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, the Sum of Two Pence; for every Double Letter Four Pence; for every Treble Letter Six Pence; and for every Ounce Eight Pence; and so in Proportion for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, or other Things.

But these Regulations are not to extend to *The Penny Post*.

**Provided always, and be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That nothing herein before contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to alter, or in any wise to affect, the Rates or Sums to be paid for Letters or Packets passing or repassing by the Carriage called *The Penny Post*.

**And whereas,** for the more ready and extensive Conveyance of Letters and Packets between that Part of *Great Britain*

*Britain* called *England*, and *Ireland*, and for the Conveniency of Trade and Commerce between the ſaid Kingdoms, it may be convenient and expedient to improve the Communication for the Conveyance of ſuch Letters and Packets by the Poſt through *Carliſle*, *Dumfries*, and *Port Patrick*, or ſome other convenient Port in *Scotland*; and through *Donaghadee*, or ſome other convenient Port in *Ireland*; **be it further declared and enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Poſt Maſter General, and his Deputy or Deputies by him thereunto ſufficiently authorized, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Port and Conveyance of all Letters and Packets, paſſing and repaſſing by the Poſt between *England* and *Ireland*, through *Carliſle*, *Dumfries*, *Port Patrick*, and *Donaghadee*, or other convenient Ports in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, the ſame Rates or Sums for *Engliſh* Poſtage, according to the Number of Miles or Stages ſuch Letters and Packets are carried by the Poſt in *England*, as alſo the ſame Rates or Sums for *Scotch* Poſtage, according to the Number of Miles or Stages ſuch Letters and Packets are carried

Rates of Poſtage between *England* and *Ireland*, thro' *Carliſle*, *Dumfries*, *Port Patrick*, and *Donaghadee*, or other convenient Ports.

carried by the Poſt in *Scotland*, and moreover the ſame Rates or Sums for Packet Poſtage between *Port Patrick* and *Donaghadee*, or other convenient Ports in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, as likewiſe the ſame Rates or Sums for *Iriſh* Poſtage, according to the Number of Miles or Stages ſuch Letters are carried by the Poſt in *Ireland*, as are reſpectively ſettled, eſtabliſhed, and aſcertained, by the ſaid Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her ſaid late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, or by this preſent Act.

Repeal of ſo much of the Act 9 *Annæ*, as directs the Poſtage between *Port Patrick* and *Donaghadee*, to be paid where the Letters are delivered.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That ſo much of the ſaid Act, made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, as directs that the Rates or Sums to be paid for the Conveyance of Letters, to be ſent by Packet Boats, between *Port Patrick* and *Donaghadee*, ſhall be paid at the Place where ſuch Letter or Letters are delivered, in order to be ſent by ſuch Packet Boats, ſhall, from and after the ſaid Tenth Day of *October*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty five, be, and is hereby, repealed.

And

**And**, to the End that all Letters or Packets may be charged with Poſtage, according to the rated Diſtance they are reſpectively carried by the Poſt, and for preventing all Diſputes touching the ſame, **be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for ſuch Perſon and Perſons as the Poſt Maſter General for the time being ſhall appoint, to meaſure, or cauſe to be meaſured, by the Wheel, all the Poſt Roads which are now ſettled and eſtabliſhed, or which ſhall hereafter be ſettled and eſtabliſhed, in any Part of the Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and other the *Britiſh* Dominions.

To prevent Diſputes, Poſt Roads may be meaſured;

**Provided always**, That ſuch Perſon or Perſons, who ſhall be ſo appointed as aforeſaid to meaſure the ſaid Diſtances, and every of them, ſhall be ſworn to perform the ſame according to the beſt of their Skill and Judgement; which Oath ſhall and may be adminiſtered by any Juſtice of the Peace, who is hereby authorized and required to adminiſter the ſame, and to make Certificates thereof in Writing, to be entered, without Fee or Charge, in the Three Chief Poſt Offices in *Great*

and a Return to be made thereof upon Oath;

and entered in the Three Chief Poſt Offices in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; and the Chief Offices in *America*.

*Britain* and *Ireland*; and in the Chief Poſt Offices eſtabliſhed, or to be eſtabliſhed, in *America*; and moreover, that ſuch Perſon or Perſons ſo to be appointed by ſuch Poſt Maſter as aforeſaid, ſhall, and they are hereby required to cauſe fair Surveys or Books to be made out; One of each whereof ſhall be left with His Majeſty's Poſt Maſter General in *London*, another of each to be left at the Chief Poſt Office in *Edinburgh* with the Poſt Maſter General's Deputy there, another of each to be left at the Chief Poſt Office at *Dublin* with the Poſt Maſter General's Deputy there, and another of each of ſuch Surveys or Books ſhall be left at each of the Chief Poſt Offices eſtabliſhed, or to be eſtabliſhed, in *America*, with the reſpective Deputies of the Poſt Maſter General there, to remain in the ſaid Poſt Offices; each of which ſaid Surveys or Books ſhall be ſigned by the Perſon or Perſons making the ſame, who ſhall and are hereby reſpectively required to make Oath of the Truth of ſuch Surveys; which Oath or Oaths ſhall and may be adminiſtered by any Juſtice of the Peace, who is hereby authorized and required to adminiſter the ſame;

Fair Surveys to be made out, and depoſited in the reſpective Offices here mentioned,

ſigned by the Perſons making the ſame, and atteſted upon Oath,

and a Certificate of his or their having ſworn to the Truth thereof ſhall be ſigned by the Poſt Maſter General for the time being, or by his Deputy or Deputies, in ſuch Chief Poſt Offices in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and in the *Britiſh* Dominions in *America*; which Books and Surveys ſhall determine the Diſtances on all the ſaid Poſt Roads: And in caſe of any Suſpicion of Error or wrong Admeaſurement, it ſhall and may be lawful for the ſaid Poſt Maſter General to cauſe new Surveys to be made; and the laſt Surveys which ſhall be made, and ſhall be verified and atteſted as above directed, ſhall, in all Courts of Juſtice, be Evidence of the Diſtances on ſuch Poſt Roads; and all Rates granted by former Act or Acts, or by this preſent Act, for the Port or Conveyance of Letters and Packets, ſhall be paid and taken according to ſuch Surveys.

and certified by the Poſt Maſter General or his Deputies.

On Suſpicion of Error, new Surveys may be made out,

according to which Poſtage is to be charged.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the Poſt Maſter General for the time being, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto ſufficiently authorized, to ſettle and eſtabliſh an Office, to be

Power given to ſettle *Penny Poſt Offices* where convenient.

called *The Penny Poſt Office*, in any City or Town, and the Suburbs thereof, and Places adjacent, within the Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and the *Britiſh* Dominions in *America*, where ſuch Poſt ſhall, by the Poſt Maſter General, be adjudged neceſſary and convenient; and to demand, have, receive, and take, the ſame Rates and Sums for the Poſtage and Conveyance of all Letters and Packets, conveyed by ſuch Penny Poſt, as are or may be taken for the Carriage of Letters and Packets, ſent or conveyed by the Carriage called *The Penny Poſt*, eſtabliſhed and ſettled within the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and Borough of *Southwark*, and Parts adjacent, according to the Extent and Meaning of the ſaid Act made in the Ninth Year of Her ſaid late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, and of an Act made in the Fourth Year of His late Majeſty King *George* the Second, and of this preſent Act.

Where ſuch Offices are eſtabliſhed, no Perſon may collect the Letters without being duly licenſed.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That when ſuch Penny Poſt Office or Offices ſhall be ſettled and eſtabliſhed in ſuch Cities, Towns, Suburbs, or Places adjacent, within the Kingdoms of *Great Britain* and

and *Ireland*, and the *Britiſh* Dominions in *America*, as aforeſaid, no Perſon or Perſons whatſoever ſhall make any Collection of Letters or Packets in or near ſuch City, Town, Suburbs, or Places, where ſuch Penny Poſt Office or Offices ſhall be eſtabliſhed, without Licence or Leave of the Poſt Maſter General for the time being; upon Pain of incurring the Forfeitures and Penalties to be forfeited and paid by Perſons collecting, receiving, carrying, recarrying, and delivering Letters, contrary to the ſaid Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her ſaid late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, to be recovered in Manner as by the ſaid Act is directed, and with Full Coſts of Suit.

Letters, &c. brought by the Inland or Foreign Poſt to the *London* Office, and directed beyond the Department of the General Poſt, but within the Delivery of the *Penny Poſt*,

**And be it further enacted** and declared by the Authority aforeſaid, That all Letters and Packets whatſoever, which ſhall or may be brought, by the Inland or Foreign Poſt, to the General Poſt Office in *London*, directed to any Perſon or Perſons at any Place or Places beyond the Delivery of the Inland or Foreign Departments of the General Poſt Office reſpectively, and within the Delivery of the ſaid Office

may be ſent by the *Penny Poſt*, and charged accordingly.

called *The Penny Poſt Office*, ſhall be conveyed and delivered by the ſaid Penny Poſt Office; and that it ſhall and may be lawful for any Meſſenger or Perſon, carrying or tranſmitting ſuch Letters or Packets, to demand and take for the Carriage and Delivery of the ſame, One Penny, and no more, over and above the Rates of Poſtage which ſhall have become due, for the Port or Conveyance of ſuch Letters or Packets to the General Poſt Office.

From and after 5 *July*, 1765, no Packet exceeding 4 oz. (except thoſe ſent by the General Poſt, *&c.*) may be ſent by the *Penny Poſt*.

**And whereas** the Weight of Letters and Packets, ſent or conveyed by the Carriage called *The Penny Poſt*, hath not yet been aſcertained by any Law or Statute: **And whereas** many heavy and bulky Packets and Parcels are now ſent and conveyed by ſuch Carriage, which, by their Bulk and Weight, greatly retard the ſpeedy Delivery thereof; **be it therefore enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the Fifth Day of *July*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty five, no Letter, Packet, or Parcel whatſoever, ſhall be forwarded, ſent, or conveyed, by any Carriage called *The Penny Poſt* already eſtabliſhed, or hereafter

hereafter to be eſtabliſhed, if the Weight of ſuch Letter, Packet, or Parcel, ſhall exceed the Weight of Four Ounces, other than ſuch Letters or Packets as have firſt come by the Poſt to the General Poſt Office, or ſhall be paſſing by the ſaid Carriage called *The Penny Poſt*, into the ſaid General Poſt Office.

**And whereas** by the ſaid Act, made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her ſaid late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, certain Rates are eſtabliſhed for all Letters paſſing from *London* through the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, or the *United Provinces*, to *Hamburgh* (Poſt-paid to *Antwerp* or *Amſterdam*) and from *Hamburgh* through the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, or the *United Provinces*, unto *London*; **be it enacted**, That ſo much of the ſaid Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her ſaid late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, as eſtabliſhes the Rates laſt above mentioned, ſhall, from and after the Fifth Day of *July*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty five, be, and the ſame is hereby repealed; and the ſaid Rates ſhall from thenceforth ceaſe and determine: And from and

From 5 *July*, 1765, the ſame Rates of Poſtage are to take Place between *London* and *Hamburgh*, as between *London* and *Germany*.

after the ſaid Fifth Day of *July*, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Poſt Maſter General, and his Deputy or Deputies by him thereunto ſufficiently authorized, to and for the Uſe of His Majeſty, His Heirs, and Succeſſors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Port and Conveyance of all Letters and Packets, ſent or conveyed by the Poſt from *London* to *Hamburgh*, or from *Hamburgh* to *London*, the ſame Rates or Sums of Money which, by the ſaid Act made in the ſaid Ninth Year of the Reign of Her ſaid late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, are ſettled and appointed to be taken for all Letters and Packets paſſing by the Poſt from *London* to all other Parts of *Germany*.

The Poſtage of Letters to be ſent out of *Great Britain*, may, if deemed neceſſary, be demanded upon their being put into the Office.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, that it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the ſaid Poſt Maſter General, and his Deputy and Deputies, if ſuch Poſt Maſter General ſhall deem it neceſſary and expedient, to cauſe the Rates or Sums for the Poſtage of all Letters and Packets which are to be ſent by the Poſt out of the Kingdom of *Great Britain*,

*Britain*, to be paid upon their being put into any Poſt Office within the ſaid Kingdom.

Penalty of any Officer of the Poſt Office ſecreting or embezzling any Letter with any Bank Bill or Note, &c. therein,

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter Carrier, or other Officer whatſoever, appointed, or to be hereafter appointed and employed in the Buſineſs of the Poſt Office, ſhall, from and after the Tenth Day of *October*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty five, ſecrete, embezzle, or deſtroy, any Letter, Packet, Bag, or Mail of Letters, which he, ſhe, or they, ſhall and may be reſpectively entruſted with, or which ſhall have come to his, her, or their Hands or Poſſeſſion, by virtue of their reſpective Employments in the ſaid Poſt Office, containing any Bank Note, Bank Poſt Bill, Bill of Exchange, Exchequer Bill, *South Sea* or *Eaſt India* Bond, Dividend Warrant of the Bank, *South Sea*, *Eaſt India*, or any other Company, Society, or Corporation, Navy or Victualling Bill, Seaman's Ticket, State Lottery Ticket, Goldſmith's Note for the Payment of Money, or other Bond or Warrant, Bill, or Promiſſory Note for the Payment of Money, or *Ameri-*

or taking out any such Note or Bill;

*can* Provincial Bill of Credit; or shall steal and take, out of any Letter or Packet that shall come to his, her, or their Hands or Poſſeſſion, by virtue of their reſpective Employments, any ſuch Bank Note, Bank Poſt Bill, Bill of Exchange, Exchequer Bill, *South Sea* or *Eaſt India* Bond, Dividend Warrant of the Bank, *South Sea*, *Eaſt India*, or any other Company, Society, or Corporation, Navy or Victualling Bill, Seaman's Ticket, State Lottery Ticket, Goldſmith's Note for the Payment of Money, or other Bond or Warrant, or Promiſſory Note for the Payment of Money, or *American* Provincial Bill of Credit, with Intent to ſecrete, embezzle, or deſtroy the ſame; every ſuch Offender or Offenders, being thereof convicted in due Form of Law, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon. N. B. *This Clauſe is amended by* Stat. 7 Geo. III. Cap. 50. Sect. 1. *which ſee hereafter.*

is Felony.

Penalty of robbing Mails,

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the ſaid Tenth Day of *October*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty five, if any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever ſhall rob any of His Majeſty's Mails

Mails of any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, Bag or Mail of Letters, although ſuch Robbery ſhall not appear, or be proved, to be a Taking from the Perſon, or upon the King's Highway, or to be a Robbery committed in any Dwelling-houſe, or any Coach-houſe, Stable, Barn, or any Outhouſe belonging to a Dwelling-houſe, and although it ſhould not appear that any Perſon or Perſons were put in Fear by ſuch Robbery, yet ſuch Offender or Offenders, being thereof convicted as aforeſaid, ſhall nevertheleſs reſpectively be deemed guilty of Felony, and ſhall ſuffer Death as a Felon. N. B. *This Clauſe is amended by* **Stat.** 7 Geo. III. Cap. 50. Sect. 2. *which ſee hereafter.*

is Felony.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter Carrier or other Servant, appointed, authorized, and intruſted, to take in Letters or Packets, and receive the Poſtage thereof, ſhall, after the ſaid Tenth Day of *October*, imbezzle, or apply to his, her, or their own Uſe, any Money or Monies by him, her, or them, received with ſuch Letters or Packets, for the Poſtage thereof; or ſhall burn or

Penalty of any Officer, &c. imbezzling or miſapplying the Poſtage Money received by him,

or deſtroying any Letter or Packet,

otherwiſe deſtroy any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, by him, her, or them, ſo taken in or received; or who, by virtue of their reſpective Offices, ſhall advance the Rates upon Letters or Packets ſent by the Poſt, and ſhall not duly account for the Money by him, her, or them, received for ſuch advanced Poſtage; every ſuch Offender or Offenders, being thereof convicted as aforeſaid, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony. N. B. *This Clauſe is amended by* **Stat.** 7 Geo. III. Cap. 50. Sect. 3. *which ſee hereafter.*

or advancing the Rates,

and not accounting for the ſame;

is Felony.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Poſt Boy or Rider, having taken any of His Majeſty's Mails, or Bags of Letters or Packets, under his Care, in order to convey the ſame to the next Poſt Town or Stage, ſhall, after the ſaid Tenth Day of *October*, quit or deſert the ſame before his Arrival at ſuch Poſt Town or Stage, or ſhall ſuffer any other Perſon or Perſons (the Perſon or Perſons employed to guard ſuch Mail or Bags of Letters and Packets only excepted) to ride on the Horſe or Carriage along with the ſaid Mails or Bags of Letters and Packets; or ſhall

Poſt Boy quitting or deſerting the Mail,

or ſuffering any Perſon (except the Guard) to ride on the Horſe or Carriage,

or loitering on the Road, &c.

ſhall loiter on the Road, and wilfully miſpend his Time, ſo as to retard the Arrival of the ſaid Mails or Bags of Letters at the next Poſt Town or Stage; or ſhall not, in all poſſible Caſes, convey ſuch Mails or Bags of Letters after the Rate of Six *Engliſh* Miles an Hour at the leaſt; every ſuch Offender, for every ſuch Offence, being thereof convicted, either by voluntary Confeſſion of the Party, or by the Oath or Oaths of One or more credible Witneſs or Witneſſes, before any One or more Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace (which Oath and Oaths the ſaid Juſtice or Juſtices is and are hereby reſpectively impowered and required to adminiſter) ſhall be ſent to the Houſe of Correction, and confined to hard Labour for any Time not exceeding One Month, nor leſs than Fourteen Days.

to be committed to hard Labour;

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the ſaid Tenth Day of *October*, if any Poſt Boy or Poſt Boys, Rider or Riders, ſhall, by himſelf or themſelves, or in Combination with others, unlawfully collect or receive Letters or Packets, or convey, or cauſe Letters and

and unlawfully collecting, conveying, or delivering Letters or Packets,

and Packets to be unlawfully conveyed, and ſhall thereof be convicted, either by the voluntary Confeſſion of the Party, or by the Oath of One or more credible Witneſs or Witneſſes, before any One or more Juſtice or Juſtices of the Peace (which Oath and Oaths the ſaid Juſtice and Juſtices is and are hereby reſpectively impowered and required to adminiſter) every ſuch Offender or Offenders ſhall, for every Letter or Packet ſo by him or them unlawfully collected, conveyed, or delivered, forfeit the Sum of Ten Shillings, to be paid to the Informer; and if the ſame ſhall not be forthwith paid upon Conviction, it ſhall and may be lawful for ſuch Juſtice and Juſtices to commit ſuch Offender or Offenders to the Houſe of Correction, there to remain at hard Labour for any Space not exceeding Two Months, nor leſs than One Month.

he forfeits 10*s.* for every Letter, *&c.*

and if not paid forthwith, he is to be committed to hard Labour.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That all and every the Clauſes, Proviſoes, Powers, Privileges, Advantages, Diſabilities, Penalties, Forfeitures, and Methods for the Recovery of the ſame Matters and Things, contained in the ſaid Act made

Clauſes, *&c.* in the Act of 9 *Anne*, or in any other Act touching the *General* or *Penny Poſt Office*,

made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her ſaid late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, or in any other Act or Acts whatſoever, touching the General Poſt Office, or the Carriage called *The Penny Poſt Office*, and not herein and hereby expreſſly altered or repealed, ſhall be applied and extended, and ſhall be conſtrued to apply and extend, to this preſent Act, as fully and effectually, to all Intents and Purpoſes, as if the ſame had been particularly repeated and re-enacted in the Body of this preſent Act.

not hereby altered or repealed, extended to this Act.

And be it further enacted and declared, That all Rates or Sums of Money eſtabliſhed or appointed by this Act, and alſo all Sums of Money impoſed as Forfeitures or Penalties, and all Sums of Money required to be paid, and all other Monies herein mentioned, ſhall be deemed and taken to be Sterling Money of *Great Britain*, and ſhall be collected, taken, recovered, and paid, to the Amount of the Value which ſuch Nominal Sums bear in *Great Britain*.

Rates, and pecuniary Penalties, to be deemed Sterling Money.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That all the Monies ariſing by the Rates aforeſaid,

Monies ariſing by this Act, to be applied as the preſent Rates of Poſtage.

ſaid, except the Monies which ſhall be neceſſary to defray ſuch Expences as ſhall be incurred in the Collection and Management of the ſame, and all other Expences attending the ſaid Office, and the due Execution of the Acts relating thereto, ſhall be appropriated and applied to ſuch and the ſame Uſes, to which the preſent Rates of Poſtage are reſpectively now by Law appropriated and made applicable.

All neceſſary Charges, &c. in the Receipt and Management of Rates, to be allowed as uſual.

**Provided always, and be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That all Charges, Out-goings, and Diſburſements, neceſſary for the Receipt and Management of the ſaid Rates, and the Rates granted by former Acts, and all other Expences attending the ſaid Office, and the due Execution of the ſeveral Acts relating thereto, be allowed and paid, in like Manner as the ſame have heretofore been allowed, authorized, and paid, at any Time ſince the Commencement of the Rates granted by the ſaid Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Queen *Anne*; any thing in this Act, or in an Act paſſed in the Firſt Year of His Majeſty's Reign, intituled, *An*

*Act*

*Act for the Support of His Majesty's Houshold, and of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown of* Great Britain, to the contrary notwithstanding.

**And whereas** by an Act made in the Fourth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled, *An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuses, in relation to the sending and receiving of Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Postage*, it is enacted, That from and after the First Day of *May*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty four, so long as the Revenue arising in the General Letter Office or Post Office, or Office of Post Master General, shall continue to be made Part of the Aggregate Fund, no Letters or Packets sent by the Post, to or from any Place whatsoever, shall be exempted from paying the Duty of Postage, except such Letters and Packets as are therein particularly excepted: **And whereas** the Privilege of sending and receiving Letters and Packets, free from the Duty of Postage, is not by the said Act extended to the Pay Master General of His Majesty's Forces for the time being, or to the Clerk of the Parliaments, or to the Clerk of the House of

Clause in Act 4 *Geo.* III.

of Commons of *Great Britain*, for the time being, who, by virtue of their reſpective Offices and Employments, neceſſarily ſend and receive many Letters relating to the Publick Concerns of theſe Kingdoms; **be it therefore enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid,

Pay Maſter General,

That from and after the paſſing of this Act, the ſaid Pay Maſter General of His Majeſty's Forces for the time being ſhall and may ſend and receive Letters, free from the Duty of Poſtage, in the ſame Manner, and under ſuch Reſtrictions, as other Offices mentioned in the ſaid Act are thereby permitted, in reſpect of their Officers, to ſend and receive; and that the ſaid

Clerks of the Parliaments, and Clerk of the Houſe of Commons, impowered to ſend and receive Letters free of Poſtage.

Clerk of the Parliaments, and Clerk of the Houſe of Commons of *Great Britain* for the time being, ſhall and may reſpectively, from and after the paſſing of this Act, ſend and receive Letters, free from the Duty of Poſtage, in the ſame Manner, and under ſuch Reſtrictions, as any Member of either of the Two Houſes of Parliament of *Great Britain* now ſend and receive the ſame, in purſuance of the ſaid Act.

Limitation of Actions.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Ac-

tio

tion or Suit ſhall be commenced againſt any Perſon or Perſons for any thing done in purſuance of this Act, the ſame ſhall be commenced within Six Months after the Fact committed, and not afterwards; and the Defendant or Defendants in ſuch Action or Suit ſhall and may plead the General Iſſue, and give this Act, and the Special Matter, in Evidence; and that the ſame was done in purſuance, and by the Authority of this Act: And if it ſhall appear ſo to be done, or that ſuch Action or Suit ſhall be commenced after the Time before limited for bringing the ſame, that then the Jury ſhall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and upon a Verdict for the Defendant, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs ſhall be nonſuited, or diſcontinue his, her, or their Action or Suit, after the Defendant or Defendants ſhall have appeared; or if upon Demurrer, Judgement ſhall be given againſt the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants ſhall and may recover Treble Coſts, and have the like Remedy for the ſame, as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have in any other Caſes by Law. General Iſſue. Treble Coſts.

Anno

Anno ſeptimo

# GEORGII III. Regis.

*An Act for amending certain Laws relating to the Revenue of the Poſt Office; and for granting Rates of Poſtage for the Conveyance of Letters and Packets between* Great Britain *and the* Iſle of Man, *and within that Iſland.*

WHEREAS it is of the utmoſt Importance to the Trade and Commerce of theſe Kingdoms, that all Letters, Packets, Bank Notes, Bills of Exchange, and other Things, may be ſent and conveyed by the Poſt with the greateſt Safety and Security; and it having been found neceſſary, that ſome further Regulations and Proviſions ſhould be made for that Purpoſe; May it pleaſe Your Majeſty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty, by and with the Advice Preamble.

vice and Conſent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this preſent Parliament aſſembled, and by the Authority of the ſame, That if any Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter-carrier, Poſt-boy, or Rider, or any other Officer or Perſon whatſoever, employed, or to be hereafter employed, in receiving, ſtamping, ſorting, charging, carrying, conveying, or delivering, Letters or Packets, or in any other Buſineſs relating to the Poſt Office, ſhall, from and after the Firſt Day of *November*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſeven, ſecrete, embezzle, or deſtroy, any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, Bag or Mail of Letters, which he, ſhe, or they ſhall and may be reſpectively intruſted with, or which ſhall have come to his, her, or their Hands or Poſſeſſion, containing any Bank Note, Bank Poſt Bill, Bill of Exchange, Exchequer Bill, *South Sea* or *Eaſt India* Bond, Dividend Warrant of the Bank, *South Sea*, *Eaſt India*, or any other Company, Society, or Corporation, Navy or Victualling or Tranſport Bill, Ordnance Debenture, Seaman's Ticket, State Lottery Ticket or Certificate,

Officers, or others employed in any Buſineſs relating to the Poſt Office,

who ſhall ſecrete, embezzle, or deſtroy, any Letter or Packet, &c. with which they ſhall be intruſted, or which ſhall come to their Hands or Poſſeſſion, containing any Bank or other Note, for Payment of Money;

Bank

Bank Receipt for Payment on any Loan, Note of Aſſignment of Stock in the Funds, Letter of Attorney for receiving Annuities or Dividends, or for ſelling Stock in the Funds, or belonging to any Company, Society, or Corporation, *American* Provincial Bill of Credit, Goldſmith's or Banker's Letter of Credit or Note for or relating to the Payment of Money, or other Bond or Warrant, Draught, Bill, or Promiſſory Note whatſoever, for the Payment of Money; or ſhall ſteal and take out of any Letter or Packet that ſhall come to his, her, or their Hands or Poſſeſſion, any ſuch Bank Note, Bank Poſt Bill, Bill of Exchange, Exchequer Bill, *South Sea* or *Eaſt India* Bond, Dividend Warrant of the Bank, *South Sea*, *Eaſt India*, or any other Company, Society, or Corporation, Navy or Victualling or Tranſport Bill, Ordnance Debenture, Seaman's Ticket, State Lottery Ticket or Certificate, Bank Receipt for Payment on any Loan, Note of Aſſignment of Stock in the Funds, Letter of Attorney for receiving Annuities or Dividends, or for ſelling Stock in the Funds, or belonging to any Company,

or ſhall ſteal, or take thereout, any ſuch Bank or other Note, &c.

pany, Society, or Corporation, *American* Provincial Bill of Credit, Goldsmith's or Banker's Letter of Credit or Note for or relating to the Payment of Money, or other Bond or Warrant, Draught, Bill, or Promissory Note whatsoever, for the Payment of Money; every such Offender or Offenders, being thereof convicted in due Form of Law, shall be deemed guilty of Felony, and shall suffer Death as a Felon, without Benefit of Clergy.

being convicted, shall suffer Death, without Benefit of Clergy.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said First Day of *November*, One thousand seven hundred and sixty seven, if any Person or Persons whatsoever shall rob any Mail or Mails, in which Letters are sent or conveyed by the Post, of any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, Bag or Mail of Letters; or shall steal and take from or out of any such Mail or Mails, or from or out of any Bag or Bags of Letters, sent or conveyed by the Post, or from or out of any Post Office, or House or Place for the Receipt or Delivery of Letters or Packets sent or to be sent by the

Persons who shall rob the Mail of any Letters,

or shall steal Letters from any Mail or Bag, or from any Post House, or Office,

the Post, any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets; although such Robbery, Stealing, or Taking, shall not appear, or be proved, to be a Taking from the Person, or upon the King's Highway, or to be a Robbery committed in any Dwelling-house, or any Coach-house, Stable, Barn, or any Out-house belonging to a Dwelling-house; and although it should not appear that any Person or Persons were put in fear by such Robbery, Stealing, or Taking; yet such Offender or Offenders, being thereof convicted as aforesaid, shall nevertheless respectively be deemed guilty of Felony, and shall suffer Death as a Felon, without Benefit of Clergy.

being convicted, shall suffer Death, without Benefit of Clergy.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter-carrier, Officer, or other Person whatsoever, employed or hereafter to be employed, in any Business relating to the Post Office, shall take and receive into his, her, or their Hands or Possession any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, to be forwarded by the Post, and receive any Sum or Sums of Money therewith for the Postage thereof, shall,

Officers, or others, employed in any Business relating to the Post Office, who shall burn or destroy any Letter to be sent by Post, for which they have received the Postage;

after the ſaid Firſt Day of *November*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſeven, burn or otherwiſe deſtroy any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, by him, her, or them, ſo taken in or received; or if any ſuch Deputy, Clerk, Agent, Letter-carrier, Officer, or other Perſon whatſoever, ſo employed, or hereafter to be ſo employed, ſhall advance the Rate or Rates of Poſtage upon any Letter or Letters, Packet or Packets, ſent by the Poſt, and ſhall ſecrete, and not duly account for, the Money by him, her, or them, received for ſuch advanced Poſtage; every ſuch Offender or Offenders, being thereof convicted as aforeſaid, ſhall be deemed guilty of Felony.

or who ſhall advance the Poſtage on any Poſt Letter without duly accounting for the Money; are deemed guilty of Felony.

**And whereas** it hath been found neceſſary, for the Convenience and Improvement of Trade and Commerce, and for the more ſafe and ſpeedy Conveyance of Letters and Packets between *Great Britain* and the *Iſle of Man*, to eſtabliſh a Packet-Boat between the Port of *Whitehaven* in the County of *Cumberland*, and the Port of *Douglas* in the ſaid *Iſle of Man*: **be it enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the Fifth Day

A Packet Boat to be eſtabliſhed between *Whitehaven*

Day of *July*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſeven, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for His Majeſty's Poſtmaſter General, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto ſufficiently authorized, to and for the Uſe of His Majeſty, His Heirs, and Succeſſors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Poſt and Conveyance of all and every the Letters and Packets that ſhall be carried or conveyed by Packet Boats to or from the Port of *Whitehaven* aforeſaid, or any other convenient Port in the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, from or to the Port of *Douglas* aforeſaid, or any other convenient Port in the ſaid *Iſle of Man* (over and above all other Rates payable for ſuch Letters or Packets,) according to the Rates and Sums hereafter mentioned (the ſame being rated either by the Letter, or by the Ounce) that is to ſay,

and the Port of *Douglas* in the *Iſle of Man*, for the Conveyance of Letters.

Rates of Poſtage to be paid thereupon.

The Rates.

For every Single Letter, Two Pence.
For every Double Letter, Four Pence.
For every Treble Letter, Six Pence.
And for every Ounce, Eight Pence.

And ſo in Proportion for every Packet of Deeds, Writs, and other Things.

Convenient Poſt Offices, and Poſt Roads, to be eſtabliſhed within the ſaid Iſland.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the ſaid Fifth Day of *July*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſeven, it ſhall and may be lawful to and for His Majeſty's Poſt-maſter General to eſtabliſh Poſt Offices and Poſt Roads within the ſaid *Iſle of Man*, wherever it ſhall appear to him to be neceſſary and convenient for the Benefit of Trade and Correſpondence ſo to do; and that it ſhall and may be lawful for ſuch Poſt-maſter General, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto ſufficiently authorized, to and for the Uſe of His Majeſty, His Heirs, and Succeſſors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Inland Port or Conveyance of all Letters and Packets ſent or conveyed by the Poſt within the ſaid Iſle, ſuch Rates of Poſtage in proportion to the Number of Miles or Stages ſuch Letters and Packets are carried or conveyed by the Poſt, as now are reſpectively ſettled, eſtabliſhed, and aſcertained, to be paid for the Inland Port or Conveyance of Letters and Packets within that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*.

Inland Port of Letters there, to be charged after the Rate of Poſtage in *England*.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That from and after the ſaid Fifth Day of *July*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty ſeven, all and every the Clauſes, Proviſions, Powers, Privileges, Advantages, Diſabilities, Penalties, and Methods for the Recovery of the ſame, and all other Matters and Things contained in an Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her late Majeſty Queen *Anne*, intituled, *An Act for eſtabliſhing a General Poſt Office for all Her Majeſty's Dominions, and for ſettling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof for the Service of the War, and other Her Majeſty's Occaſions*, (and not repealed or altered by any ſubſequent Law;) as alſo in an Act made in the Sixth Year of the Reign of His Majeſty King *George* the Firſt, intituled, *An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuſes in the Publick Revenues of Exciſe, Cuſtoms, Stamp Duties, Poſt Office, and Houſe Money*, ſo far as the ſaid Act relates to the Poſt Office; as alſo in an Act made in the Twenty ſixth Year of the Reign of His Majeſty King *George* the Second, intituled, *An Act for the more effectual preventing the*

Clauſes, Proviſions, Powers, Privileges, Penalties, &c.

in Act 9 *Anne*,

not repealed or altered by any ſubſequent Law;

and in Act 6 *Geo.* I.

and in Act 26 *Geo.* II.

*fraudulent Removal of Tobacco by Land or Water, and for the Eaſe of the fair Trader; and for aſcertaining the Rates payable for the Poſtage of certain Letters; and for amending and explaining the Laws relating to the Sale of Spirituous Liquors by Retail*; ſo far as the ſaid Act relates to the Poſt Office; as alſo in an Act made in the Fourth Year of the Reign of His preſent moſt gracious Majeſty, intituled, *An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuſes in relation to the ſending and receiving Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Poſtage*; as alſo in an Act made in the Fifth Year of His preſent Majeſty, intituled, *An Act to alter certain Rates of Poſtage; and to amend, explain, and enlarge, ſeveral Proviſions in an Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Queen* Anne, *and in other Acts relating to the Revenue of the Poſt Office*; and alſo in this preſent Act, or in any other Act relating to the Poſt Office, ſhall extend, and be deemed and conſtrued to extend, to the ſaid *Iſle of Man*, and to all His Majeſty's Subjects within the ſaid Iſle, as fully and effectually in every Reſpect, as if the ſaid Iſle, and His Majeſty's Subjects therein,

ſo far as the ſame relate to the Poſt Office;

alſo in Act 4 *Geo.* III.

and Act 5 *Geo.* III.

and this preſent, or other Act relating to the Poſt Office,

extended to the *Iſle of Man.*

therein, had been expreſsly included in the ſaid ſeveral Acts, or in any of them.

**And be it enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That all the Monies ariſing by the Rates aforeſaid, except the Monies which ſhall be neceſſary to defray ſuch Expences as ſhall be incurred in the Collection and Management of the ſame, and all other Expences attending the ſaid Office, and the due Execution of the Acts relating thereto, ſhall be appropriated and applied to ſuch and the ſame Uſes to which the preſent Rates of Poſtage are reſpectively now by Law appropriated and made applicable. Monies ariſing by the Poſtage there, after all Charges deducted, to be applied as the preſent Rates of Poſtage.

**And be it further enacted** by the Authority aforeſaid, That if any Action or Suit ſhall be commenced againſt any Perſon or Perſons for any thing done in purſuance of this Act, the ſame ſhall be commenced within Six Months after the Fact committed, and not afterwards; and the Defendant or Defendants in ſuch Action or Suit ſhall and may plead the General Iſſue, and give this Act, and the Special Matter, in Evidence, and that the ſame was done in purſuance and by the Authority Limitation of Actions. General Iſſue.

rity of this Act; and if it ſhall appear ſo to be done, or that ſuch Action or Suit ſhall be commenced after the Time before limited for bringing the ſame, that then the Jury ſhall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and upon a Verdict for the Defendant, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs ſhall be nonſuited, or diſcontinue his, her, or their Action or Suit after the Defendant or Defendants ſhall have appeared; or if, upon Demurrer, Judgement ſhall be given againſt the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants ſhall and may recover Treble Coſts, and have the like Remedy for the ſame as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have in any other Caſes by Law.

*Treble Coſts.*

AN

AN

# ABSTRACT

OF

## Several Clauſes now in FORCE,

Relating to the

# POST-OFFICE,

## Taken from various Acts of Parliament.

BY **Stat.** 13 and 14 *Car.* 2. *Cap.* 11. *Sect.* 22. it is enacted, That no Ship, Veſſel, or Boat, ordinarily employed for the Carriage of Packets or Letters, ſhall (unleſs allowed by the Perſons employed to manage His Majeſty's Cuſtoms) import or export any Goods or Merchandize, into or out of the Parts beyond the Seas, upon the Penalty of One hundred Pounds to be paid by the Maſter of the Veſſel, with the Loſs of his Place; and all Goods and

Merchandize that ſhall be found on Board any ſuch Ship, Veſſel, or Boat, ſhall be forfeited.

By **Stat.** 1 *Geo.* 1. *Cap.* 1. *Sec.* 3. intituled, "An Act for the better Support of His Ma-"jeſty's Houſehold, and of the Honour and "Dignity of the Crown of *Great Britain*," it is enacted, That the Hereditary Rates and Duties of Exciſe upon Beer, Ale, and other Liquors, with the Subſidy of Tonnage and Poundage, and other Duties upon Wines, Goods, and Merchandizes granted to His Majeſty for Life; and the Revenue of the General Letter Office, or Poſt Office, or Office of Poſtmaſter General, and other ſmall Branches of His Majeſty's Revenue therein expreſſed, ſhall be for the Support of His Majeſty's Houſehold, and of the Honour and Dignity of His Crown; the ſaid Hereditary Duties, and Duties of Exciſe, granted for His Majeſty's Life as aforeſaid, and ſaid Revenues of the Poſt Office, ſhall reſpectively be liable to the reſpective Incumbrances and Charges thereafter in ſaid Act ſpecified concerning the ſame.

By *Sect.* 5. it is enacted, That nothing in this Act ſhall extend to hinder or obſtruct the Payment of the Weekly Sum of Seven hundred Pounds into the Receipt of Exchequer, or the Application thereof to the Uſes intended by the Acts of Ninth of Queen *Anne* concerning the ſame, or to make void the Proviſion for reſerv-

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ing a Third Part of the Surplus Money to be diſpoſed by Parliament for the Uſe of the Public.

By **Stat.** 1 *Geo.* 1. *Cap.* 12. *Sec.* 1. Reſolved, That there be granted to His Majeſty for Life, an additional Revenue of One hundred and twenty thouſand Pounds *per Ann.* which, together with the Net Produce of the Branches ſettled for Uſes of His Majeſty's Civil Government, by the late Act, may make up the clear Yearly Sum of Seven hundred thouſand Pounds for the Service of His Majeſty's Houſehold and Family, and other His neceſſary Expences and Occaſions.

By *Sect.* 25. enacted, That if the Revenues ſettled for the Service of His Majeſty's Houſehold, and of the Honour and Dignity of His Crown, by the late Act of the Firſt year of His Majeſty's Reign, intituled, "An Act for the "better Support of His Majeſty's Houſehold, and "of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown of *Great Britain*," together with the ſaid additional Revenue of One hundred and twenty thouſand Pounds *per Ann.* intended by this Act to be ſupplied as aforeſaid, ſhall, from *Michaelmas* 1715, at any Time during His Majeſty's Life, produce, in clear Money more than the Yearly Sum of Seven hundred thouſand Pounds; that then the Overplus of ſuch Produce ſhall be Part of the General or Aggregate Fund, by this Act

intended to be eſtabliſhed; and that all Grants and Diſpoſitions whatſoever hereafter to be made by His Majeſty of ſuch Overplus, or any Part thereof, from time to time, without Authority of Parliament, ſhall be utterly void and of none Effect.

By *Sec.* 26. enacted, That if the Reuenues ſettled for the Service of His Majeſty's Houſehold, *&c.* by the ſaid Act, and the ſaid additional Revenue of One hundred and twenty thouſand Pounds *per Ann.* taken together, ſhall, at the End of any Year during His Majeſty's Life, appear to have produced leſs than Seven hundred thouſand Pounds; then, and as often as any ſuch Deficiency ſhall happen, the ſame ſhall be provided for, anſwered, and made good, by and out of the next Aids to be granted by Parliament.

By **Stat.** 3 *Geo.* 1. *Cap.* 7. (amongſt other Things) the Weekly Payment of Seven hundred Pounds out of the Poſt Office Revenue, into the Exchequer, limitted by the Act of Ninth of Queen *Anne* to Thirty two Years, is made perpetual; and all the Clauſes and Powers contained in the ſaid Act are alſo made perpetual.

By **Stat.** 7 *Geo.* I. *Cap.* 27. *Sec.* 19. enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for His Majeſty, His Heirs, and Succeſſors, by Warrant under the Great Seal, Privy Seal, or Royal Sign Manual, to

to cauſe a Deduction to be made, not exceeding Six Pence in the Pound, out of all Monies which, from and after the firſt Day of *Auguſt* 1721, ſhall be paid, for or upon all Penſions and Annuities charged upon any of the hereditary or temporary Duties, and upon all Salaries, Fees, and Wages, payable for or in reſpect of Offices of Profit granted by, or derived from, the Crown, and upon all other Payments from the Crown whatſoever, or any Arrearages of them; the Pay of Commiſſion and Non-commiſſion Officers and private Men ſerving in the Navy or Army, only excepted.

By **Stat.** 12 *Geo.* 1. *Cap.* 2. *Sec.* 1. enacted, That it ſhall be lawful for His Majeſty, His Heirs, and Succeſſors, to continue the Deductions of Six Pence in the Pound, which, by the laſt Act, His Majeſty was impowered to make upon all Penſions and Annuities charged on the Civil Liſt Revenues, and upon all Salaries, Fees, and Wages, for the Purpoſes in the ſaid Act mentioned.

By *Sec.* 26. of the ſame **Stat.** it is enacted, That the Monies ariſing from the ſaid Deductions of Six Pence in the Pound ſhall be appropriated for diſcharging the Annuities of Three Pounds *per Cent.* in the ſaid Act mentioned, till redeemed; and if the Deductions prove deficient, the ſame ſhall be made good out of the Hereditary Revenues.

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By Stat. 1 *Geo.* 2. *Cap.* 1 *Sec.* 4. it is enacted, That the Hereditary Exciſe, and other Duties of Exciſe on Beer, Ale, and other Liquors, granted to His Majeſty for Life, and the further Subſidy of Tonnage and Poundage, and other Duties upon Wines, Goods, and Merchandizes, and the Yearly Sum of One hundred and twenty thouſand Pounds thereby granted to His Majeſty for Life, and the Revenue of the General Letter Office, or Poſt Office, or Office of Poſtmaſter General, and the ſmall Branches of His Majeſty's Revenues therein mentioned, and all Revenues which were ſettled for the Support of the late King's Houſehold, and the Honour and Dignity of the Crown, ſhall be for the Support of His Majeſty's Houſehold, *&c.* but chargeable with the Payments or Incumbrances directed to be ſet apart out of the ſaid Revenues by any former Act.

By *Sec.* 5. of the ſame Stat. it is enacted, That if the Produce of the Revenues thereby granted (above all Incumbrances) ſhall at any Time be ſo deficient, that within One Year, reckoning from *Midſummer* 1727, the ſame ſhall not be ſufficient to ſatisfy the Yearly Sum of Eight hundred thouſand Pounds, ſuch Deficiency ſhall be made good out of the next Aids to be granted in Parliament.

By Stat. 10 *Geo.* 2. *Cap.* 29. *Sec.* 1. it ſhall be lawful for His Majeſty, by Letters Patent or Indenture,

denture, under the Great Seal, to grant unto her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs of *Wales*, or to ſuch other Perſon as His Majeſty ſhall think fit, and their Heirs, in Truſt for the ſaid Princeſs, an Annuity of Fifty thouſand Pounds, to commence from the Deceaſe of the Prince of *Wales*, and continue for the Life of the ſaid Princeſs, to be paid at the Four uſual Feaſts, in caſe ſhe ſhall ſurvive the Prince; and the ſaid Yearly Sum of Fifty thouſand Pounds ſhall be iſſued out of the Revenues therein ſpecified; *viz.* Forty thouſand Pounds out of the Revenues of the Poſt Office; the Weekly Sum of Seven hundred Pounds mentioned in the Act of the Ninth of Queen *Anne*, *Cap.* 10. and any other Monies by that Act appointed to be reſerved for the Uſe of the Public, always excepted.

By *Sec.* 2. of the ſame Stat. The Yearly Sum of Ten thouſand Pounds (Remainder of the ſaid Yearly Sum of Fifty thouſand Pounds) ſhall be charged upon the Hereditary Duties of Exciſe granted by 12 *Car.* 2. *Cap.* 24. and the Duties of Exciſe granted to His Majeſty for Life by an Act 1 *Geo.* 2. *Cap.* 1. during the Continuance thereof, ſhall likewiſe be chargeable as an additional Security for ſaid Yearly Sum of Ten thouſand Pounds.

By *Sec.* 4. it is enacted, That if the Revenue of the Poſt Office ſhall be inſufficient to anſwer the quarterly Payment, the Comptroller of the

Office

Office ſhall, without Fee, make a Certificate of the Sum deficient, and deliver the ſame to the Princeſs or her Order; upon producing which, the Treaſury ſhall ſatisfy ſuch Deficiency out of any Overplus Monies of the Duties of Exciſe, or out of other Monies ariſing by any Hereditary Branches of Revenue, with Preference to all other Payments hereafter charged thereon: And if the Duties of Exciſe applicable to the ſaid Yearly Payment of Ten thouſand Pounds, ſhall not anſwer ſuch quarterly Payment, the Comptroller of Exciſe ſhall, without Fee, deliver a Certificate of ſuch Deficiency to the Princeſs or her Order, and the Treaſury ſhall ſatisfy the ſame out of the Overplus Monies of the Poſt Office Revenues, or other Branches of the Hereditary Revenue.

By *Sec.* 5. it is enacted, That the ſaid Yearly Sum of Fifty thouſand Pounds, ſhall be Tax free, and ſhall be paid from the ſaid Revenues without any Fee or Charges; and the Acquittance of the Princeſs, her Truſtees, or Receiver General, ſhall be a ſufficient Diſcharge: Upon Non-payment, the Princeſs may proſecute the Commiſſioners, *&c.* and recover the ſame by Judgements and Executions.

By *Sec.* 6. it is enacted, That all the Powers and Clauſes contained in His Majeſty's ſaid Letters Patent or Indenture ſhall be effectual in Law, notwithſtanding any thing contained in

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the Act of the Firſt of Queen *Anne*, for the better Support of her Majeſty's Houſehold, *&c.* or in the Act of the Ninth of Queen *Anne* for eſtabliſhing the Poſt Office.

By **Stat.** 12 *Geo.* 2. *Cap.* 15. *Sec.* 1. it ſhall be lawful for His Majeſty, by Letters Patent, or Indenture under the Great Seal, to grant to His Royal Highneſs the Duke of *Cumberland*, and his Heirs, an Annuity of Fifteen thouſand Pounds, to commence from His Majeſty's Demiſe, and be payable on the Four Quarter Days, the Firſt Payment to be made on the Quarter Day next after His Majeſty's Demiſe, with ſuch Powers for his Royal Highneſs, and his Heirs, to make Jointures on Wives and Proviſion for Children, as His Majeſty ſhall think fit.

By *Sec.* 2. of the ſame **Stat.** it ſhall be lawful for His Majeſty by Letters Patent or Indenture, under the Great Seal, to grant unto their Royal Highneſſes the Princeſſes *Amelia*, *Caroline*, *Mary*, and *Loviſa*, and the Survivors and Survivor of them, or to any other Perſon in Truſt for them (ſubject to the Contingencies and Determination thereinafter mentioned) one other Annuity of Twenty four thouſand Pounds, to commence and be payable in manner aforeſaid; the former Annuity of Fifteen thouſand Pounds to be charged on the Poſt Office Revenues, except ſuch Part thereof as is appropriated

to

to the Uſe of the Public; and the latter, on the Duties of Exciſe granted by the Act of Twelfth of *Car.* 2.

By *Sec.* 4. it is enacted, That if the Revenue of the Poſt Office ſhall, at the End of any Quarter, be inſufficient to anſwer the Payment, then the Comptroller of the Office, without Fee, to deliver a Certificate of the Deficiency, which the Treaſury are to ſatisfy out of any Overplus of the Exciſe Duties, or out of ſome other Monies ariſing by any Hereditary Branches of the Revenue appointed for the Uſes of the Civil Government: And if the Duties of Exciſe ſhall, at the End of any Quarter, be inſufficient for that Purpoſe, the Comptroller of the Exciſe ſhall, without Fee, deliver a Certificate in Writing of the Deficiency; on the producing of which, the Treaſury are to cauſe the ſame to be ſatisfied out of any Overplus of the Poſt Office Revenues, or out of ſome other Monies ariſing by the aforeſaid Hereditary Branches of the Revenue.

By *Sec.* 5. it is enacted, That the ſaid Annuities of Fifteen thouſand Pounds and Twenty four thouſand Pounds, ſhall be paid by the Commiſſioners, Treaſurers or Receivers of the Revenues, on which they are charged, without Fee; and the Receipts of their Royal Highneſſes the Duke and Princeſſes, or of any Perſons by them authorized, ſhall be a ſufficient Diſcharge

the ſame to be Tax free: And if the Officers of the Exchequer, and the ſaid Commiſſioners, *&c.* ſhall not pay the Annuities, their Royal Highneſſes may ſue them by Action of Debt, and may recover Judgements, and ſue out Executions thereupon for ſo much as ſhall have been in their Hands at the Time of Demand.

By *Sec.* 6. it is enacted, That His Majeſty's Letters Patent for the Payment of the ſaid Annuities, ſhall be effectual in the Law, notwithſtanding any Reſtriction of the Acts of the Firſt and Ninth of Queen *Anne*, or any Defect in the ſaid Letters Patent; ſaving to all Perſons (other than the King's Majeſty, His Heirs, and Succeſſors, and ſuch Perſon or Perſons as may ſtand ſeized in Truſt for His Majeſty, His Heirs, and Succeſſors) all ſuch Intereſt as they have in the ſaid Revenues.

By *Sec.* 7. it is enacted, That the ſaid Annuity of Fifteen thouſand Pounds, ſhall not be aliened or incumbred by his Royal Highneſs, or the Heirs of his Body, for any longer Time than the Life of the Alienor, or ſo as to prevent the ſame from deſcending to the Heirs in Tail, other than according to the Power limited by ſuch Letters Patent.

By *Sec.* 8. it is enacted, That upon the Death of any One of the Princeſſes, or upon her Marriage, and the Payment, of a Portion not leſs than Forty thouſand Pounds, her Title to

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the Annuity of Twenty four thouſand Pounds ſhall ceaſe, and go to the Three others; and upon the Death or Marriage of any other, and the Payment of a Portion as aforeſaid, her Right to the Annuity ſhall ceaſe, and Two Thirds of it ſhall accrue to the other Two Princeſſes; and upon the Death or Marriage of either of them, with a Portion as aforeſaid, her Right to the Annuity ſhall ceaſe; and the other ſhall be intitled to Twelve thouſand Pounds *per Ann.* to ceaſe on her Death or Marriage as aforeſaid.

By **Stat.** 20 *Geo.* 2. for granting to His Majeſty ſeveral Rates and Duties upon Coaches, *&c.* it is declared, That the ſaid Act ſhall not extend to charge with the Duty of Forty Shillings *per Ann.* by the ſaid Act impoſed upon Chaiſes and Chairs with Two Wheels, any Poſt Chaiſe that now is, or hereafter ſhall be kept for Hire by His Majeſty's Poſtmaſter General, or by any Deputy Poſtmaſter in *Great Britain*, authorized by him to keep ſuch Poſt Chaiſes: Provided that all Poſt Chaiſes ſo to be kept by ſuch Poſtmaſter General, or Deputy Poſtmaſters, for Hire, ſhall, within Thirty Days after the letting out of ſuch Chaiſes for Hire be entred at the Office of Exiſe next to the Place where ſuch Perſons ſhall inhabit; and ſhall (beſides His Majeſty's Arms to be painted upon every ſuch Poſt Chaiſe) have ſuch Figure

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or Mark of Diſtinction fixed thereupon, as ſhall be appointed by the Commiſſioners of Exciſe for that Purpoſe.

N.B. *At the Time this Act was made, Four Wheeled Poſt Chaiſes were not in Uſe; but ſince they were ſet up, no Perſons travel in Two Wheeled Ones; ſo that the Benefit intended to the Poſtmaſters by the above Act is intirely loſt; the Commiſſioners of Exciſe inſiſting upon their paying the Four Pounds Duty for all their Four Wheeled Poſt Chaiſes.*

By **Stat.** 22 *Geo.* 2. *Cap.* 25. *Sec.* 1. reciting the **Stat.** of Ninth of Queen *Anne*, for eſtabliſhing the Poſt Office, it is enacted, That the ſaid Act ſhall not reſtrain the Letting out for Hire Chaiſes or Calaſhes, or the furniſhing Horſes for drawing the ſame, at any Stage upon any Poſt Road; but all Perſons may let out for Hire, as well upon the Poſt Roads as elſewhere, Chaiſes duly licenſed, with Horſes to draw the ſame, and may furniſh and exchange Horſes for that Purpoſe.

By *Sec.* 2. of the ſame **Stat.** it is enacted, That all Perſons who let out Chaiſes or Calaſhes with Horſes for Hire, may alſo let out Horſes and Furniture for horſeing Servants and others, accompanying Perſons who travel in ſuch Chaiſes or Calaſhes, and may change ſuch

Horſes

Horſes and Furniture in manner before mentioned.

By *Sec.* 3. it is provided, That this Act ſhall not extend to ſtay or defeat any Judgement or Verdict obtained by virtue of the recited Act of Ninth of Queen *Anne*, on or before 25 *March* 1749, or the Proceedings thereon.

By **Stat.** 31 *Geo.* 2. *Cap.* 23. *Sec.* 1. enacted, That from the 5 *April*, 1758, there ſhall be Yearly paid unto His Majeſty the Sum of One Shilling, over and above all other Duties already payable, for every Twenty Shillings of the Yearly Value or Amount of all Salaries Fees, and Perquiſites of Offices, and Employments of Profit; and the like Sum of One Shilling, for every Twenty Shillings, of all Penſions and other Gratuities payable out of any Revenue belonging to His Majeſty exceeding One hundred Pounds *per Ann.*

By *Sec.* 2. enacted, That for the better raiſing the ſaid Duty, Deduction ſhall be made thereout of the Salaries, Wages, or Fees of Offices and Employments payable by the Crown, and alſo out of any Penſion or Gratuity payable out of any Revenue belonging to His Majeſty, exceeding the Value of One hundred Pounds *per Ann*; the Deductions ſo made by the Officers of the Exchequer in *England*, to remain there for the Purpoſes thereinafter mentioned; and ſuch Deductions as ſhall be made by any other

Perſon

Perſons by whom the Salaries and Penſions are Payable in *England*, ſhall be by them paid into the Exchequer at *Weſtminſter*.

By *Sec.* 3. enacted, That the Duty payable, in reſpect of the Perquiſites of Offices within *England*, *Wales*, and *Berwick upon Tweed*, is to be computed according to the annual Value at which the ſame ſtand rated in the laſt Aſſeſsment to the Land Tax: And they are to be deemed to have been therein rated at ſo much only, as the entire Sum exceeds the Amount of the Salary, Wages, or Fees payable in reſpect of ſuch Office.

By *Sec.* 4. enacted, That the Commiſſioners of the Land Tax for the ſeveral Counties, Cities, Towns, Boroughs, *&c.* within *England*, *Wales*, and *Berwick upon Tweed*, are appointed Commiſſioners for putting ſo much of this Act in Execution as relates to the Duty charged upon the Perquiſites of Offices.

By *Sec.* 7. this Act ſhall not charge her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs Dowager of *Wales*, or his Royal Highneſs the Prince of *Wales*, with the above mentioned Duty, in reſpect of any Sums of Money or Annuities granted by His Majeſty to them, or the Officers or Servants attending their Perſons; but their Royal Highneſſes, their Treaſurers, and Receivers General, ſhall be free from all Taxes and Public Charges whatſoever. Nor ſhall it charge

charge his Royal Highneſs the Duke of *Cumberland*, or her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs Royal, or her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs *Amelia*, or the Officers or Servants attending their Perſons, for any Annuities granted to them by His Majeſty.

By *Sec.* 23. enacted, That where any Perſon ſhall have or exerciſe two or more Offices or Employments, the Salary and Perquiſites whereof, together, exceed One hundred Pounds *per Ann.* ſuch Perſon ſhall be rated and pay One Shilling in the Pound for the Profits thereof, notwithſtanding the Salary and Perquiſites of no One of them are of that Value.

By *Sec.* 24. Nothing in this Act is to extend to the Pay of Commiſſion or Non-Commiſſion Officers or private Men, ſerving in the Navy or Army.

By **Stat.** 32 *Geo.* 2. *Cap.* 33. *Sec.* 1. reciting the laſt Act, it is enacted, That all Sums which, on 5 *July* 1759, and afterwards, ſhall become due, and be deducted, by virtue of the ſaid Act in reſpect of the Salaries, Fees, Wages, Penſions, and Gratuities, payable by the Crown, or out of any Revenue belonging to His Majeſty in *England*, *Wales*, or *Berwick upon Tweed*, ſhall, by the Officers and Perſons deducting the ſame, be paid into the Hands of a Receiver to be for that Purpoſe appointed by His Majeſty: And the

the ſeveral Commiſſioners and Perſons making the Deductions are, at the Requeſt of ſuch Receivers, to deliver them a true Account of all the Salaries, Fees, Wages, annual Penſions, and Gratuities, by them reſpectively payable; and of the Names of the Perſons intitled to receive the ſame.

By *Sec.* 2. enacted, That all Sums which have been, or ought to have been, deducted under the ſaid Act, in reſpect of Salaries, Fees, Wages, Penſions and Gratuities, ſhall be accounted for to ſuch Receivers, and the Accounts audited and paſſed by them, and not by the Auditors of the Impreſts, or the Auditors of the Exchequer.

By *Sec.* 3. enacted, That if any Diſpute ſhall ariſe whether the Fees or Wages of any Office or Employment, or whether any Penſion or Gratuity, be chargeable under the ſaid Act of 31 *Geo.* 2. or under this Act, or touching the Sum which ought to be deducted thereout, ſuch Diſputes ſhall be heard by the Barons of the Exchequer in *England* or *Scotland* reſpectively, where the Office or Employment in Queſtion is exerciſed, or the Penſion or Gratuity is payable.

*Sec.* 5. ſets forth, That the Manner preſcribed by **Stat.** 31 *Geo.* 2. *Cap.* 23. *Sec.* 3. for rating the Profits of Offices and Employments, ariſing from Perquiſites, hath not been found ſufficient, and conſequently the ſaid Offices have not contributed in equal Proportion, with thoſe whereof

the Profits ariſe from Salaries, Fees and Wages payable by the Crown: Therefore enacted, That the Commiſſioners of the Land Tax ſhall fix, according to their beſt Judgement and Diſcretion, the Sum Total of the Perquiſites ariſing from each Office within their Diſtricts, diſtinct from the Salary, Fees, and Wages, thereunto belonging, independently of any former Valuation of the ſame to the Land Tax; and ſhall rate all Offices and Employments, whereof the Perquiſites ſhall exceed One hundred Pounds a Year, at One Shilling for every Twenty Shillings ariſing thereby.

By *Sec.* 6. enacted, That the Receivers in all Public Offices, tranſmit to the Commiſſioners of the Land Tax, an Account of all Offices and Employments, where the Fees, Wages, and Salaries, do not exceed One hundred Pounds a Year; and if the Commiſſioners find the Perquiſites with the Salary, certified by ſuch Receivers, to exceed together One hundred Pounds a Year, they are then to rate ſuch Office and Employment, and cauſe the Duty of One Shilling in the Pound to be levied thereon.

By *Sec.* 7. in all future Aſſeſſments to the Land Tax, the ſaid Offices and Employments ſhall not be aſſeſſed at any higher Rates than they were aſſeſſed towards the Land Tax of 31 *Geo.* 2.

By *Sec.* 8. by the Word Perquiſites is meant, ſuch Profits of Offices and Employments as ariſe from

from Fees eſtabliſhed by Cuſtom or Authority, and payable either by the Crown or Subject, for Buſineſs done in the Courſe of executing ſuch Offices and Employments.

No Military Officers to be charged with the ſaid Duty.

Nor any Penſion, Annuity, *&c.* charged upon any of His Majeſty's Revenues, that have been by his Predeceſſors, or by Act of Parliament granted in Fee or Fee-tail, or till redeemed by Payment of any Sum mentioned in any Grant or Act of Parliament.

Nor any Offices or Employments in either of the Two Univerſities.

By **Stat.** 1 *Geo.* 3. *Sec.* 1. reciting, amongſt other Things, the Act of 1 *Geo.* 1. whereby the Revenue ariſing by the Duties of Exciſe, General Letter Office, and the ſmall Branches of His Majeſty's Revenues, were declared to be for the Support of His Majeſty's Houſehold and of the Honour and Dignity of the Crown, it is enacted, That from His late Majeſty's Deceaſe, and during the Life of His preſent Majeſty, the Rates and Duties therein mentioned ſhall be paid in the ſame Manner, and with ſuch Allowances and Exemptions, as directed in the ſaid Acts, or any Law in Force relating to the Exciſe; and all Laws ſhall be in Force for levying and recovering the ſaid Duties.

By *Sec.* 3. The Revenue of the General Poſt Office, *&c.* and all other Branches and Revenues which, on the Twentieth of *October* 1760, ſtood ſettled towards the Support of the late King's Houſehold (except all Annuities charged on the ſaid Revenues) ſhall for His preſent Majeſty's Life be carried to, and made Part of, the Aggregate Fund eſtabliſhed by Act of 1 *Geo.* 1. and be applied to the Uſes to which the ſame is or ſhall be applicable. Nevertheleſs, the Hereditary Duties, Duties of Exciſe, and ſaid Revenues of the General Poſt Office, ſhall be liable to the ſeveral Annual, Weekly, or other Payments charged thereon, by any former Act, in Manner and for the ſame Uſes, as the ſame were ſubject to at the Time of His late Majeſty's Demiſe.

By *Sec.* 6. His Majeſty is impowered to grant a Sum not exceeding Five thouſand Pounds *per Ann.* to the Lord Chancellor or Lord Keeper, to be paid by the Receivers of the Revenues of the General Poſt Office, out of the ſaid Revenues, according to the Tenor of ſuch Grant; which Payment is to be conſidered as Part of, and to be deducted from, the annual Sum by this Act granted to His Majeſty for the Support of his Civil Government.

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# TABLE.

## 9 ANNÆ.

*AN Act for eſtabliſhing a General Poſt-Office for all Her Majeſty's Dominions, and for ſettling a Weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof, for the Service of the War, and other Her Majeſty's Occaſions.* Page 5.

## 6 GEORGII I.

*An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuſes in the Publick Revenues of Exciſe, Cuſtoms, Stamp Duties Poſt Office, and Houſe Money.* [So much thereof as relates to the *Poſt Office.*] Page 77.

## 4 GEORGII II.

*An Act for obviating a Doubt which hath ariſen concerning the uſual Allowance made upon the Delivery of Letters ſent by the Peny Poſt to Places out of the Cities of* London *and* Weſtminſter, *and Borough of* Southwark, *and the reſpective Suburbs thereof.* 81.

## 26 GEORGII II.

*An Act for the more effectually preventing the fraudulent Removal of Tobacco by Land or Water, and for the Eaſe of the Fair Trader in Tobacco; and for aſcertaining the Rates payable for the Portage of certain Letters; and for amending and explaining*

*explaining the Laws relating to the Sale of Spirituous Liquors by Retail.* [So much thereof as relates to the *Poſt Office.*] Page 87.

4 GEORGII III.

*An Act for preventing Frauds and Abuſes in relation to the ſending and receiving of Letters and Packets free from the Duty of Poſtage.* 91.

5 GEORGII III.

*An Act to alter certain Rates of Poſtage, and to amend, explain, and enlarge, ſeveral Proviſions in an Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Queen* Anne, *and in other Acts relating to the Revenue of the Poſt Office.* 107.

7 GEORGII III.

*An Act for amending certain Laws relating to the Revenue of the Poſt Office; and for granting Rates of Poſtage for the Conveyance of Letters and*

*Packets between* Great Britain *and the* Isle of Man, *and within that Island.* Page 141.

*An Abstract of several Clauses now in Force relating to the Post Office, taken from various Acts of Parliament.* 153.

FINIS.